



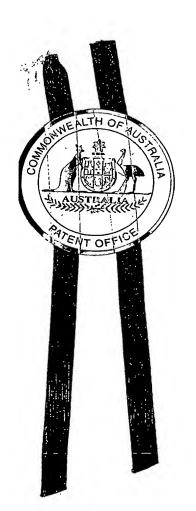
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I, JONNE YABSLEY, TEAM LEADER EXAMINATION SUPPORT AND SALES hereby certify that annexed is a true copy of the Provisional specification in connection with Application No. 2002951096 for a patent by THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND as filed on 30 August 2002.



WITNESS my hand this Eighth day of September 2003

JONNE YABSLEY

TEAM LEADER EXAMINATION

SUPPORT AND SALES

Ky ales

PRIORITY DOCUMENT

SUBMITTED OR TRANSMITTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 17.1(a) OR (b)

This invention relates to an improved phased array coil for magnetic residence imaging. In particular, the invention is directed to a coil structure which provides improved sensitivity closer to the centre of the object undergoing imaging.

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BACKGROUND TO THE INVENTION

In magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) applications, a patient is placed in a strong and homogeneous static magnetic field, causing the otherwise randomly oriented magnetic moments of the protons, in water molecules within the body, to precess around the direction of the applied field. The part of the body in the homogeneous region of the magnet is then irradiated with radio-frequency (RF) energy, causing some of the protons to change their spin orientation. This has the effect of nutating the net magnetization, which was directed with the static magnetic field prior to RF application, and thereby causing a component of the magnetization to be transverse to the applied static field. This precessing magnetization induces measurable signal in a receiver coil tuned to the frequency of precession (The Larmor frequency). This is the magnetic resonance (MR) signal. The useful RF components are those generated in a plane at 90 degrees to the direction of the static magnetic field.

The same coil structure that generates the RF field can be used to receive the MR signal or a separate receiver coil place close to the patient may be used. In either case the coils are tuned to the Larmor precessional frequency ω_0 where $\omega_0 = \gamma B_0$ and γ is the gyromagnetic ratio for a specific nuclide and B₀ is the applied static magnetic field.

Conventionally, when imaging the thorax, a whole body radio frequency coil is used in both transmit and receive modes to enable full coverage of the anatomy. By distinction, when imaging the head, neck, knee or other extremity, local coils are often used as receivers in conjunction with whole-body transmitter coils. Placing the local coil close to the imaged region improves the signal-to-noise ratio and therefore the spatial resolution as well as limiting the field of view. In some procedures, local coils are used for both transmission and reception.

In some cases a plurality of RF receiver coils comprising an NMR phased array are used to enable MR signals from multiple regions in the body to be acquired at the same time (see for example US patent no. 4,825,162). In this manner parallel imaging methods may be used to advantage in tailoring the region of interest and/or reducing scan times for comparable resolution to single receiver systems. Popular parallel imaging methods include "SMASH" (DK Sodikson and WF Manning, "Simultaneoaus acquisition of spatial harmonics (SMASH): fast imaging with radiofrequency arrays," Magn. Reson. Med. 38:591-603, 1997) and "SENSE" (KP Pruessmann, M. Weigner, MB Scheidegger and P. Boesinger, "SENSE: sensitivity encoding for fast MRI," Magn. Reson. Med. 42; 952-962, 1999).

In prior art phased array coils, the multiple receiver coils are placed either overlapping or adjacent to either other in a plane, or can be wrapped circumferentially around a cylinder or similar shape. They are wrapped in a serial fashion, that is one coil after the other (see for example, JR Porter, SM Wright and A Reykowski, "16-element phased array head coil," Magn. Reson. Med. 40: 272-279, 1998). While these coils have been effective in producing complete images of an anatomical region such as the brain, by combining signals from each of the array elements, it is a characteristic of all such prior art coil arrangements that the point of maximum sensitivity of each element is superficial to the anatomy under study. Often the area of diagnostic interest, in the head, for example, may be located away from the surface, deeper in the brain.

It is an object of the invention to provide an improved phased array coil structure in which each element has its maximum sensitivity close to the centre of the object under study.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a rotary phased array radiofrequency structure.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In one broad form, the invention provides a phased array coil structure having a plurality of coil elements, the coil elements in the array being similar to each other but rotated from each other around an axis.

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Typically, the coil elements are arranged generally in respective diametric planes of a cylinder, and spaced angularly around the axis of the cylinder. Preferably, the elements are spaced equally.

Each coil element typically comprises spaced main conductors extending axially along the circumference of the cylinder, and connection conductors connecting like ends of the main conductors. For practical purposes, the connection conductors at one or both ends of the coil element may be positioned around the circumference of the cylinder to provide access to within the cylinder.

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In one embodiment of the invention, each element is a receiver coil individually connected to a pre-amplifier and receiver channel and actively decoupled from a larger volume transmitter coil. Signals from each of the elements are later combined to form a composite image. In another embodiment of the invention, each element is used for both transmission of RF energy and reception of the magnetic resonance signal. In a still further embodiment, selected elements may be used for transmission and different elements for reception, the selection of said transmission and reception elements may change desirably during an imaging sequence.

Said rotary phased array structures may be used to advantage in routine imaging sequences or with imaging sequences that sample the imaging region using rotary "k-space" techniques, such as back-projection or Propeller (J.G. Pipe, "Turboprop - an improved Propeller Sequence for Diffusion Weighted MRI" *Proc. Intl. Soc. Magn. Reson. Med.* 10, 435 (2002)) sequences and, in these circumstances, are particularly advantageous for the imaging of short T₂ relaxation constant materials.

These and other objects of the present invention will become apparent upon reading the following detailed description and when considered in conjunction with the drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows prior art phased array coil elements with other circuitry in cylindrical form.

FIG. 2 shows the sensitivity profile of a single prior art array element, with the circular coil centre being located at X=Y=0.

FIG. 3 is a schematic diagram illustrating a two element rotary array

FIG. 4 is a schematic diagram illustrating a four element rotary array.

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FIG. 5 is a schematic diagram illustrating the general connectivity of the rotary phased array when used for parallel imaging.

FIG. 6 is a schematic diagram illustrating a rotary phased array structured for head imaging

FIG. 7 is a schematic diagram illustrating a rotary phased array with complete cylindrical access.

FIG. 8 is a series of images of a silicon oil cylindrical phantom, acquired using a prototype rotary array coil. The image at the top left is the sum-of-squares image combination of the images from the 4 elements (other images).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring to FIG 1, there is shown a prior art MRI phased array general coil layout, in which the coil elements are placed adjacent or partially overlapping around the outside of a cylinder (not shown) or similar shaped former. That is, the coil elements are located on the circumferential surface of a cylinder. As is routine in the prior art, a single large resonator, external to the array transmits radiofrequency energy to a patient undergoing an MRI scan within the array. Each element of the array acts as a receiver coil, and all coils generally receive signal simultaneous, thereby enabling parallel acquisition of signals from regions within the cylinder.

As is known in the art (see for example P. Roemer, W.A. Edelstein, C.E. Hayes, S.P. Souza and O.M. Mueller, "The NMR Phased Array," *Magn. Reson. Med.* 16, 192-225 (1990)) the interaction between the coils may be reduced by: overlapping the coils in a prescribed manner, connecting low-impedance pre-amplifiers to each coil and/or having a common conductor containing a predefined capacitor; or a combination of

these three methods. A typical sensitivity profile of a single element is shown in Figure 2, where it is clear that the region of high sensitivity is close to the plane of the coil and falls away rapidly away from the coil plane.

In the present invention, each of the elements of the array forms a circuit which has a plane of maximum sensitivity that generally contains the axis of the cylinder. That is, the plane of each element cuts radially or diametrically through the cylinder rather than wrapping circumferentially around it, as in the prior art. This is advantageous in that the region of maximum sensitivity is central rather than peripheral to the object being imaged. This is often preferable in a diagnostic sense.

FIG. 3 illustrates conceptually or schematically, the orientation of a 2-element rotary or angular array. In one embodiment of the invention, in an N-element array, each coil element is rotated or angled from the nearest element by 180/(N) degrees, i.e. they are spaced equi-angularly around the cylinder. For example, elements 10 and 11 are separated by 90 degrees. FIG. 4 shows an example of a 4-element array, in which each of the coil elements 10,11,12 and 13 are separated from the nearest element by 45 degrees. It is to be understood that the invention also encompasses the use of unequal angular spacing of the elements.

Each of the elements of the array are tuned to the appropriate Larmor precessional frequency and, in a preferred embodiment, are connected to separate preamplifiers and receiver channels, so that each of the elements can acquire signal simultaneously, as is illustrated in the schematic block diagram of FIG. 5.

In another embodiment of the invention, one of the coil elements of the array acts as a transmitter element and all others as receiver elements. Alternately, each of the elements may act as both transmitter and receiver.

In a further embodiment a selected pair of orthogonal coil elements (elements 10 and 12 in FIG 4, for example) act as a transmitter receiver pair, where one element transmits, say element 10 and the other (element 12) receives, with all other elements inactive. Then, sequentially, the next rotary orthogonal pair act as transmitter/receiver (elements 11 and 13) and so on through the set of N elements.

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When employed as transmitter coils, each element can be driven with a different amplitude and phased radiofrequency pulse, so as, for example, to generate circularly polarized transmission radiofrequency fields. Such tailoring of radiofrequency drives is also useful in high frequency applications to correct for the propagation distortions caused by the dielectric and conductive nature of human tissue. By appropriately driving the rotary elements these non-symmetric effects can be largely compensated, resulting in images that give a more accurate representation of the patient's anatomy.

The rotary progression or acquisition in this manner can be closely linked to MRI imaging techniques. In these sequences, the way in which the imaging gradients are used to scan the imaging region is angular or rotary rather than rectilinear in so-called "k-space" (see, for example, P.T. Callaghan, Principles of Magnetic Resonance Microscopy, Oxford University Press, 1994). Such imaging methods that sample imaging space in a rotary manner include back-projection imaging methods, "propeller" sequences and some variants of spiral imaging (C.H. Meyer, B.S. Hu, D.G. Nishimura, A. Macovski, "fast spiral coronary artery imaging" *Magn. Reson. Med.* 28, 202-213, 1992).

While not limited to use with these sequences, the rotary phased array is advantageous in speeding up these types of imaging protocols.

While FIGs 3-5 illustrate the general principles of the rotary array of this invention, the coil structures need to allow patient access to be useful in practice. The conductors of each element parallel with the z-axis and positioned on the periphery of the cylinder are called the main conductors of each coil element and the other two conductors which connect these main conductors and complete the coil element are called connection conductors. In one embodiment of the present invention, the connection conductors of each coil element at one of the ends of the structure (ie, the planes orthogonal to the z-axis at the furtherest extents of the array being the top and bottom ends), say the bottom end, are placed around the circumference of the cylinder. This allows complete access at one end and is, for example, a structure useful for head imaging. FIG. 6 illustrates this structure schematically. In this example, switch points A and B may be alternately

connected to points 2&4 then 1&3, or each of the elements may be permanently connected to separate pre-amplifiers and receiver channels.

In an alternative embodiment, the connection conductors of all coil elements are positioned around the circumference of the cylinder at both the top and bottom ends of the array, thus allowing complete cylindrical access to the patient. FIG 7 shows this general architecture.

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Positioning the connection conductors around the periphery should not affect the field unduly. The transverse field is the useful RF field for MRI applications, and since this is generated primarily by conductors running parallel to the main axis (ie the main conductors), the strongest field is in the middle of the cylinder if the main conductors are diametrically opposite each other on the periphery of the cylinder.

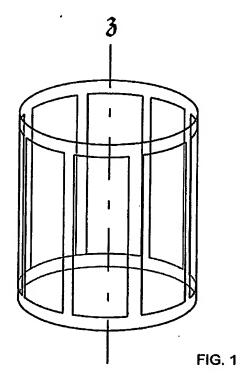
Typically in prior art elements, any overlap between adjacent coils is small - just enough to minimize mutual inductance. In the prior art, when there are just 2 elements, they are wrapped around the periphery. So the main conductors of one element are close or adjacent to the main conductors in the other element. In the invention, they would still be 90 degrees apart. Furthermore, as the number of elements increases, in prior art coils the maximum sensitivity moves closer to the periphery of the cylinder. On the other hand, with the coil arrangement of the invention, as the number of elements increases, maximum sensitivity remains near the centre of the cylinder.

To demonstrate a preferred embodiment of the present invention, a 4-element transmit/receive rotary array was constructed around a cylinder of diameter 64mm and length 110mm. Each element was tuned and matched to operate simultaneously at 85 MHz (corresponding to ¹H Magnetic Resonances at 2 Tesla field strength) and decoupled from each other.

FIG 8 shows the Transmit/Receive images from each of the 4 rotary elements in turn and a sum-of-squares combined image which demonstrates a high uniformity of signal across the imaging region, particularly in the central region as desired.

The foregoing describes only some embodiments of the invention, and it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various

changes in form and detail may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of this invention.



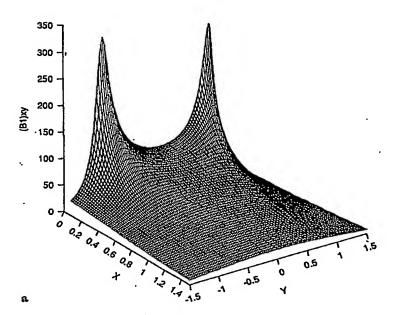
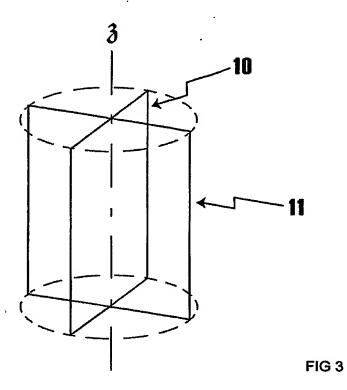
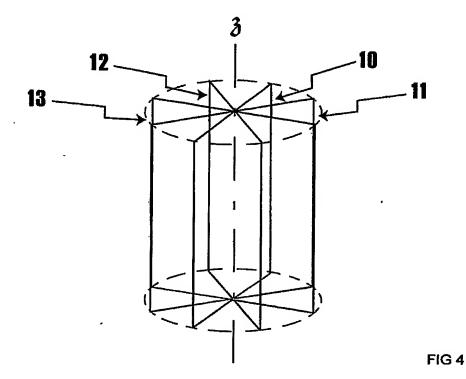


FIG 2





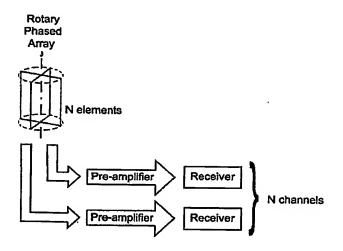


FIG 5

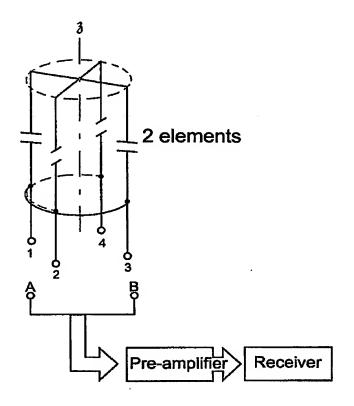


FIG 6

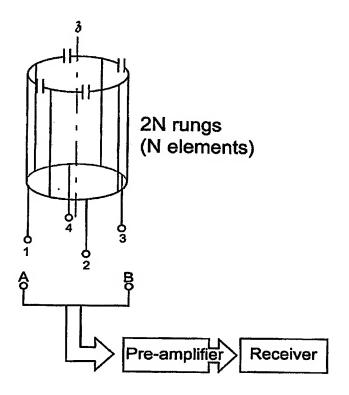


FIG 7

combined image

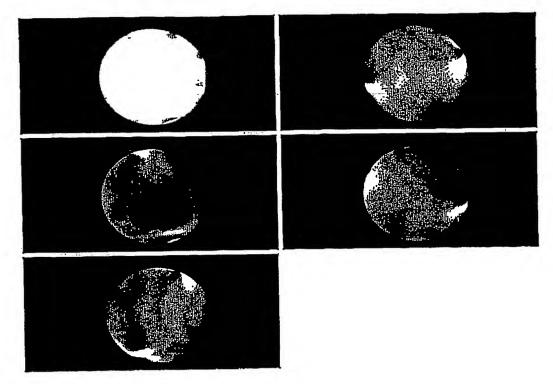


FIG 8

P/00/003 Section 29

AUSTRALIA

Patents Act 1990

PATENT REQUEST: PROVISIONAL APPLICATION

We, being the person identified below as the Applicant, request the grant of a patent for an invention described in the accompanying provisional specification.

Full application details follow:

[71] Applicant:

International Flower Developments Pty Ltd

of

16 Gipps Street, Collingwood, Victoria, 3066, Australia

[54] Invention Title:

"Genetic sequences and uses therefor"

- [72] Name(s) of actual inventor(s):
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A member of the firm of DAVIES COLLISON CAVE for and on behalf of the Applicant

30 August, 2002

Regulation 3.2

International Flower Developments Pty Ltd

AUSTRALIA Patents Act 1990

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

for the invention entitled:

"Genetic sequences and uses therefor"

The invention is described in the following statement:

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GENETIC SEQUENCES AND USES THERFOR

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to a genetic sequence encoding a polypeptide having an improved flavonoid 3', 5'-hydroxylating activity and the use of the genetic sequence and/or its corresponding polypeptide thereof. More particularly, the improved flavonoid 3', 5'-hydroxylase (F3'5'H) has the ability to modulate DHK metabolism as well as the metabolism of other substrates such as DHQ, naringenin and eriodictyol. Even more particularly the improved flavonoid 3', 5'-hydroxylase (hereinafter referred to as improved F3'5'H) of the present invention is isolated from pansy, salvia or sollya. Even yet more particularly, the present invention provides a genetic sequence encoding a polypeptide having improved F3'5'H activity when expressed in rose, gerbera or botanically related plants. The instant invention further relates to antisense and sense molecules corresponding to all or part of the subject genetic sequence as well as genetically modified plants as well as cut flowers, parts and reproductive tissue from such plants.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Reference to any prior art in this specification is not, and should not be taken as, an acknowledgment or any form of suggestion that this prior art forms part of the common general knowledge in any country.

The flower or ornamental plant industry strives to develop new and different varieties of flowers and/or plants. An effective way to create such novel varieties is through the manipulation of flower colour. Classical breeding techniques have been used with some success to produce a wide range of colours for almost all of the commercial varieties of flowers and/or plants available today. This approach has been limited, however, by the constraints of a particular species' gene pool and for this reason it is rare for a single species to have the full spectrum of coloured varieties. For example, the development of novel coloured varieties of plants or plant parts such as flowers, foliage and stems would

offer a significant opportunity in both the cut flower and ornamental markets. In the flower or ornamental plant industry, the development of novel coloured varieties of major flowering species such as rose, chrysanthemum, tulip, lily, carnation, gerbera, orchid, lisianthus, begonia, torenia, geranium, petunia, nierembergia, pelargonium, impatiens and cyclamen would be of great interest. A more specific example would be the development of a blue rose or gerbera for the cut flower market.

In addition, the development of novel coloured varieties of plant parts such as vegetables, fruits and seeds would offer significant opportunities in agriculture. For example, novel coloured seeds would be useful as proprietary tags for plants. Furthermore modifications to flavonoids common to berries including grapes and their juices including wine have the potential to impart altered style characteristics of value to such fruit and byproduct industries.

Flower colour is predominantly due to three types of pigment: flavonoids, carotenoids and betalains. Of the three, the flavonoids are the most common and contribute a range of colours from yellow to red to blue. The flavonoid molecules that make the major contribution to flower colour are the anthocyanins, which are glycosylated derivatives of cyanidin and its methylated derivative peonidin, delphinidin and its methylated derivatives petunidin and malvidin and pelargonidin. Anthocyanins are localised in the vacuole of the epidermal cells of petals or the vacuole of the sub epidermal cells of leaves.

The flavonoid pigments are secondary metabolites of the phenylpropanoid pathway. The biosynthetic pathway for the flavonoid pigments (flavonoid pathway) is well established, (Holton and Cornish, *Plant Cell 7*: 1071-1083, 1995; Mol et al., *Trends Plant Sci. 3*: 212–217, 1998; Winkel-Shirley, *Plant Physiol. 126*: 485-493, 2001a; and Winkel-Shirley, *Plant Physiol. 127*: 1399-1404, 2001b) and is shown in Figures 1a and b. Three reactions and enzymes are involved in the conversion of phenylalanine to p-coumaroyl-CoA, one of the first key substrates in the flavonoid pathway. The enzymes are phenylalanine ammonialyase (PAL), cinnamate 4-hydroxylase (C4H) and 4-coumarate: CoA ligase (4CL). The first committed step in the pathway involves the condensation of three molecules of

malonyl-CoA (provided by the action of acetyl CoA carboxylase (ACC) on acetyl CoA and CO_2) with one molecule of p-coumaroyl-CoA. This reaction is catalysed by the enzyme chalcone synthase (CHS). The product of this reaction, 2',4,4',6', tetrahydroxychalcone, is normally rapidly isomerised by the enzyme chalcone flavanone isomerase (CHI) to produce naringenin. Naringenin is subsequently hydroxylated at the 3 position of the central ring by flavanone 3-hydroxylase (F3H) to produce dihydrokaempferol (DHK).

The pattern of hydroxylation of the B-ring of dihydrokaempferol (DHK) plays a key role in determining petal colour. The B-ring can be hydroxylated at either the 3', or both the 3' and 5' positions, to produce dihydroquercetin (DHQ) or dihydromyricetin (DHM), respectively. Two key enzymes involved in this part of the pathway are flavonoid 3'-hydroxylase and flavonoid 3', 5'-hydroxylase, both of the cytochrome P450 class of enzymes. Cytochrome P450 enzymes are widespread in nature and genes have been isolated and sequenced from vertebrates, insects, yeasts, fungi, bacteria and plants.

Flavonoid 3'-hydroxylase (F3'H) generally acts on DHK to produce DHQ and on naringenin to produce eriodictyol. Reduction and glycosylation of DHQ produces the cyanidin-glycoside based pigments which, in many plant species (for example Rosa spp., Dianthus spp. and chrysanthemum), contribute to red and pink flower colour.

Flavonoid 3', 5'-hydroxylase (F3'5'H) generally acts on DHK and DHQ to produce DHM and on naringenin and eriodictyol to produce pentahydroxyflavanone. Reduction and glycosylation of DHM produces the delphinidin-glycoside based pigments which, in many plant species (for example Petunia spp., Viola spp., Lisianthus spp., Gentiana spp., Sollya spp., Salvia spp., Clitoria spp., Kennedia spp., Campanula spp., Lavandula spp., Verbena spp., Torenia spp., Delphinium spp., Solanum spp., Cineraria spp., Vitis spp., Babiana stricta, Pinus spp., Picea spp., Larix spp., Phaseolus spp., Vaccinium spp., Cyclamen spp., Iris spp., Pelargonium sp., Liparieae, Geranium spp., Pisum spp., Lathyrus spp., Catharanthus spp., Malvia spp., Mucuna spp., Vicia spp., Saintpaulia spp., Lagerstroemia spp., Tibouchina spp., Plumbago spp., Hypocalyptus spp., Rhododendron spp., Linum spp., Macroptilium spp., Hibiscus spp., Hydrangea spp., Cymbidium spp., Millettia spp.,

Hedysarum spp., Lespedeza spp., Asparagus spp. Antigonon spp., Pisum spp., Freesia spp., Brunella spp., Clarkia spp., etc.), contribute to purple and blue flower colour. Many plant species such as roses, gerberas, chrysanthemums and carnations (excluding genetically modified carnations described in International Patent Application No. PCT/AU96/00296), do not produce delphinidin-based pigments because they lack a F3'5'H activity.

The next step in the pathway, leading to the production of the coloured anthocyanins from the dihydroflavonols (DHK, DHQ, DHM), involves dihydroflavonol-4-reductase (DFR) leading to the production of the leucoanthocyanidins. The leucoanthocyanidins are subsequently converted to the anthocyanidins, pelargonidin, cyanidin and delphinidin. These flavonoid molecules are unstable under normal physiological conditions and glycosylation at the 3-position, through the action of glycosyltransferases, stabilises the anthocyanidin molecule thus allowing accumulation of the anthocyanins. In general, the glycosyltransferases transfer the sugar moieties from UDP sugars to the flavonoid molecules and show high specificities for the position of glycosylation and relatively low specificities for the acceptor substrates (Seitz and Hinderer, Anthocyanins. In: Cell Culture and Somatic Cell Genetics of Plants. Constabel, F. and Vasil, I.K. (eds.), Academic Press, New York, USA, 5: 49-76, 1988). Anthocyanins can occur as 3-monosides, 3-biosides and 3-triosides as well as 3, 5-diglycosides and 3, 7-diglycosides associated with the sugars glucose, galactose, rhamnose, arabinose and xylose (Strack and Wray, In: The Flavonoids -Advances in Research since 1986. Harborne, J.B. (ed), Chapman and Hall, London, UK, 1-22, 1993).

Glycosyltransferases involved in the stabilisation of the anthocyanidin molecule include UDP glucose: flavonoid 3-glucosyltransferase (3GT), which transfers a glucose moiety from UDP glucose to the 3-O-position of the anthocyanidin molecule to produce anthocyanidin 3-O-glucoside.

In petunia and pansy (amongst others), anthocyanidin 3-O-glucoside are generally glycosylated by another glycosyltransferase, UDP rhamnose: anthocyanidin 3-glucoside

rhamnosyltransferase (3RT), which adds a rhamnose group to the 3-O-bound glucose of the anthocyanin molecule to produce the anthocyanidin 3-rutinosides, and once acylated, can be further modified by UDP: glucose anthocyanin 5 glucosyltransferase (5GT). However, in roses (amongst others), the anthocyanidin 3-O-glucosides are generally glycosylated by another glycosyltransferase, UDP: glucose anthocyanin 5 glucosyltransferase (5GT) to produce anthocyanindin 3, 5 diglucosides.

Many anthocyanidin glycosides exist in the form of acylated derivatives. The acyl groups that modify the anthocyanidin glycosides can be divided into 2 major classes based upon their structure. The aliphatic acyl groups include malonic acid or succinic acid and the aromatic class include the hydroxy cinnamic acids such as *p*-coumaric acid, caffeic acid and ferulic acid and the benzoic acids such as *p*-hydroxybenzoic acid.

Methylation at the 3' and 5' positions of the B-ring of anthocyanidin glycosides can also occur. Methylation of cyanidin-based pigments leads to the production of peonidin. Methylation of the 3' position of delphinidin-based pigments results in the production of petunidin, whilst methylation of the 3' and 5' positions results in malvidin production.

In addition to the above modifications, pH of the vacuole or compartment where pigments are localised and copigmentation with other flavonoids such as flavonols and flavones can affect petal colour. Flavonois and flavones can also be aromatically acylated (Brouillard and Dangles, In: *The Flavonoids -Advances in Research since 1986*. Harborne, J.B. (ed), Chapman and Hall, London, UK, 1-22, 1993).

The ability to control F3'5'H activity, or other enzymes involved in the flavonoid pathway, in flowering plants would provide a means to manipulate colour of plant parts such as petals, fruit, leaves, sepals, seeds etc. Different coloured versions of a single cultivar could thereby be generated and in some instances a single species would be able to produce a broader spectrum of colours.

Two nucleotide sequences (referred to herein as SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:3) encoding petunia F3'5'Hs have been cloned (see International Patent Application No. PCT/AU92/00334 and Holton et al., 1993, supra). Although these sequences were efficient in modulating 3', 5' hydroxylation of flavonoids in petunia (see International Patent Application No. PCT/AU92/00334 and Holton et al., 1993, supra), tobacco (see International Patent Application No. PCT/AU92/00334) and carnations (see International Patent Application No. PCT/AU96/00296), they were surprisingly unable to synthesize 3', 5'-hydroxylated flavonoids in roses. There is a need, therefore, to identify further genetic sequences encoding F3'5'Hs which efficiently modulate 3'5' hydroxylation of flavonoids such as anthocyanins in roses and other key commercial plant species.

In accordance with the present invention, genetic sequences encoding improved F3'5'H have been identified and cloned from a number of species other than petunia. The recombinant genetic sequences of the present invention permit the modulation of expression of genes encoding this enzyme by, for example, *de novo* expression, over-expression, suppression, antisense inhibition and ribozyme activity. The ability to control F3'5'H synthesis in plants and more specifically in roses permits modulation of the composition of individual anthocyanins as well as alteration of relative levels of flavonols and anthocyanins, thereby enabling the manipulation of colour of plants such as petals, leaves, seeds, sepals, fruits etc.

Accordingly, one aspect of the present invention provides an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding a F3'5'H or a derivative thereof wherein said F3'5'H or its derivative is capable of more efficient conversion of DHK to DHM in roses (and other species of commercial importance) than is the F3'5'H encoded by the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:3.

Efficiency as used herein relates to the capability of the F3'5'H enzyme to convert its substrate DHK or DHQ into DHM in a rose cell (or plant cell of commercial importance). This provides the plant with a substrate (DHM) for other enzymes of the flavonoid pathway able to further modify this molecule, via, for example, glycosylation, acylation

and rhamnosylation, to produce various anthocyanins which contribute to the production of a range of colours. The modulation of 3', 5'-hydroxylated anthocyanins in rose is thereby enabled. Efficiency is conveniently assessed by one or more parameters selected from: extent of transcription, as determined by the amount of mRNA produced; extent of translation of mRNA, as determined by the amount of translation product produced; extent of enzyme activity as determined by the production of anthocyanin derivatives of DHQ or DHM; the extent of effect on flower colour.

In work leading up to the present invention, the inventors surprisingly discovered combinations of promoter and F3'5'H gene sequences that were functional in carnation and petunia were not always functional in rose. Surprisingly only a non-obvious subset of promoter and F3'5'H gene sequence combinations proved to lead to 3'5'-hydroxylated flavonoids in rose flowers. These included F3'5'H sequences isolated from $Viola\ spp.$, Salvia spp. and Sollya spp. Further to this the $Viola\ F3'5'H$ (or pansy F3'5'H) sequences were found to result in the highest accumulation of 3'5'-hydroxylated flavonoids in rose. The novel promoter and F3'5'H gene sequence combinations can be employed inter alia to modulate the color or flavour or other characteristics of plants or plant parts such as flowers, fruits, nuts, roots, stems, leaves or seeds. Thus, the present invention represents a new approach to developing plant varieties having altered color characteristics. Other uses include, for example, the production of novel extracts of F3'5'H transformed plants wherein the extract has use, for example, as a flavouring or food additive or health product or beverage or juice or coloring. Beverages may include but are not limited to wines, spirits, teas, coffee, milk and dairy products.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Throughout this specification, unless the context requires otherwise, the word "comprise", or variations such as "comprises" or "comprising", will be understood to imply the inclusion of a stated element or integer or group of elements or integers but not the exclusion of any other element or integer or group of elements or integers.

Nucleotide and amino acid sequences are referred to by a sequence identifier number (SEQ ID NO:). The SEQ ID NOs: correspond numerically to the sequence identifiers <400>1 (SEQ ID NO:1), <400>2 (SEQ ID NO:2), etc.

One aspect of the present invention provides an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding, or complementary to a sequence encoding pansy F3'5'H, salvia F3'5'H or sollya F3'5'H or a functional derivative of the enzyme.

A further aspect of the present invention is directed to an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding, or complementary to a sequence encoding pansy F3'5'H, salvia F3'5'H or sollya F3'5'H or a functional mutant, derivative, part, fragment, homologue or analogue of pansy F3'5'H, salvia F3'5'H or sollya F3'5'H.

Another aspect of the present invention provides a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence or complementary nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 or having at least about 50% similarity thereto or capable of hybridizing to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 under low stringency conditions.

Still another aspect of the present invention provides an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence or complementary nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 or having at least about 50% similarity thereto or capable of hybridising to

the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 or complementary strands of either under low stringency conditions, wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide having F3'5'H activity.

Still a further aspect of the present invention provides a nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding or complementary to a sequence encoding an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12 or SEQ ID NO: 14 or SEQ ID NO: 16 or SEQ ID NO: 18 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity thereto.

Even still another aspect of the present invention provides an oligonucleotide of 5-50 nucleotides having substantial similarity or complementarity to a part or region of a molecule with a nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 or a complementary form thereof.

A further aspect of the present invention provides a method for producing a transgenic flowering plant capable of synthesizing an improved F3'5'H said method comprising stably transforming a cell of a suitable plant with a nucleic acid sequence which comprises a sequence of nucleotides encoding said improved F3'5'H under conditions permitting the eventual expression of said nucleic acid sequence, regenerating a transgenic plant from the cell and growing said transgenic plant for a time and under conditions sufficient to permit the expression of the nucleic acid sequence. The transgenic plant may thereby produce non-indigenous improved F3'5'H at elevated levels relative to the amount expressed in a comparable non-transgenic plant.

Another aspect of the present invention contemplates a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous or existing F3'5'H activity, said method comprising stably transforming a cell of a suitable plant with a nucleic acid molecule which comprises a sequence of nucleotides encoding or complementary to a sequence encoding an F3'5'H activity, regenerating a transgenic plant from the cell and where necessary growing said transgenic plant under conditions sufficient to permit the expression of the nucleic acid.

Yet another aspect of the present invention contemplates a method for producing a genetically modified plant with reduced indigenous or existing F3'5'H activity, said method comprising altering the F3'5'H gene through modification of the indigenous sequences via homologous recombination from an appropriately altered F3'5'H gene or derivative or part thereof introduced into the plant cell, and regenerating the genetically modified plant from the cell.

Still another aspect of the present invention contemplates a method for producing a transgenic flowering plant exhibiting altered inflorescence properties, said method comprising stably transforming a cell of a suitable plant with a nucleic acid sequence of the present invention, regenerating a transgenic plant from the cell and growing said transgenic plant for a time and under conditions sufficient to permit the expression of the nucleic acid sequence.

Still a further aspect of the present invention contemplates a method for producing a flowering plant exhibiting altered inflorescence properties, said method comprising alteration of the F3'5'H gene through modification of the indigenous sequences via homologous recombination from an appropriately altered F3'5'H gene or derivative or part thereof introduced into the plant cell, and regenerating the genetically modified plant from the cell.

Even yet another aspect of the present invention extends to a method for producing a transgenic plant capable of expressing a recombinant gene encoding a F3'5'H or part thereof or which carries a nucleic acid sequence which is substantially complementary to all or a part of a mRNA molecule optionally transcribable where required to effect regulation of a F3'5'H, said method comprising stably transforming a cell of a suitable plant with the isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding, or complementary to a sequence encoding, a F3'5'H, where necessary under conditions permitting the eventual expression of said isolated nucleic acid molecule, and regenerating a transgenic plant from the cell.

Even still another aspect of the present invention extends to all transgenic plants or parts of transgenic plants or progeny of the transgenic plants containing all or part of the nucleic acid sequences of the present invention, or antisense forms thereof and/or any homologues or related forms thereof and, in particular, those transgenic plants which exhibit altered inflorescence properties.

Even still another aspect of the present invention extends to all transgenic plants or parts of transgenic plants or progeny of the transgenic plants containing all or part of the nucleic acid sequences of the present invention, or antisense forms thereof and/or any homologues or related forms thereof and, in particular, those transgenic plants which exhibit altered aerial parts of the plant such as sepal, bract, petiole, peduncle, ovaries, anthers or stem properties.

Another aspect of the present invention contemplates the use of the extracts from transgenic plants or plant parts transgenic plants or progeny of the transgenic plants containing all or part of the nucleic acid sequences of the present invention and, in particular, the extracts from those transgenic plants when used as a flavouring or food additive or health product or beverage or juice or coloring.

A further aspect of the present invention is directed to recombinant forms of improved F3'5'H.

Another aspect of the present invention contemplates the use of the genetic sequences described herein in the manufacture of a genetic construct capable of expressing an improved F3'5'H or down-regulating an indigenous F3'5'H enzyme in a plant.

Yet another aspect of the present invention is directed to a prokaryotic or eukaryotic organism carrying a genetic sequence encoding an improved F3'5'H extrachromasomally in plasmid form.

Still another aspect of the present invention extends to a recombinant polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acids substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12 or SEQ ID NO: 14 or SEQ ID NO: 16 or SEQ ID NO: 18 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12 or SEQ ID NO: 14 or SEQ ID NO: 16 or SEQ ID NO: 18 or a derivative of said polypeptide.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

Figures 1a and 1b are schematic representations of the biosynthesis pathway for the flavonoid pigments. Figure 1a illustrates the general production of the anthocyanidin 3glucosidesthat occur in most plants that produce anthocyanins. Figure 1b represents further modifications of anthocyanins that occur in petunia. Enzymes involved in the pathway have been indicated as follows: PAL = Phenylalanine ammonia-lyase; C4H = Cinnamate 4-hydroxylase; 4CL = 4-coumarate: CoA ligase; CHS = Chalcone synthase; CHI = Chalcone flavanone isomerase; F3H = Flavanone 3-hydroxylase; DFR = Dihydroflavonol-4-reductase; ANS = Anthocyanidin synthase, 3GT= UDP-glucose: flavonoid 3-Oglucosyltransferase; 3RT UDP rhamnose: anthocyanidin 3-glucoside rhamnosyltransferase, AR-AT = Anthocyanidin-rutinoside acyltransferase, 5GT = Anthocyanin 5-glucosyltransferase; 3' OMT = Anthocyanin 3'.O-methyltransferase, 3'5' OMT = Anthocyanin 3', 5' O -methyltransferase. Other abbreviations include: DHK = dihydrokaempferol, DHQ = dihydroquercetin, DHM = dihydromyricetin,

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

In accordance with the present invention, genetic sequences encoding improved F3'5'H have been identified, cloned and assessed. The recombinant genetic sequences of the present invention permit the modulation of expression of genes encoding this enzyme by, for example, *de novo* expression, over-expression, suppression, antisense inhibition and ribozyme activity. The ability to control F3'5'H synthesis in plants permits modulation of the composition of individual anthocyanins as well as alteration of relative levels of flavonols and anthocyanins, thereby enabling the manipulation of petal colour. Moreover, the present invention extends to plants and reproductive or vegetative parts thereof including flowers, seeds, vegetables, leaves, stems, etc., and more particularly, ornamental transgenic plants. The term transgenic also includes progeny plants from the primary transgenic plants.

Accordingly, one aspect of the present invention provides an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding, or complementary to a sequence encoding an improved F3'5'H or a functional derivative of the enzyme.

The present invention is described and exemplified herein by reference to the identification, cloning and manipulation of genetic sequences encoding an improved F3'5'H which, up to the present time, is a particularly convenient and useful F3'5'H enzyme for the practice of the invention herein disclosed. This is done, however, with the understanding that the present invention extends to all novel improved F3'5'H-like enzymes and their functional derivatives.

For convenience and by way of short hand notation only, reference herein to an improved F3'5'H enzyme includes F3'5'H acting on DHK as well as DHQ. Preferably, the improved F3'5'H enzyme is a pansy, salvia or sollya F3'5'H. The improved F3'5'H enzyme may also be considered to include a polypeptide or protein having an improved F3'5'H activity or F3'5'H-like activity. The latter encompasses derivatives having altered F3'5'H activities.

A preferred aspect of the present invention, therefore, is directed to an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding, or complementary to a sequence encoding an improved or a functional mutant, derivative, part, fragment, homologue or analogue of an improved F3'5'H.

By the term "nucleic acid molecule" is meant a genetic sequence in a non-naturally occurring condition. Generally, this means isolated away from its natural state or synthesized or derived in a non-naturally-occurring environment. More specifically, it includes nucleic acid molecules formed or maintained *in vitro*, including genomic DNA fragments recombinant or synthetic molecules and nucleic acids in combination with heterologous nucleic acids. It also extends to the genomic DNA or cDNA or part thereof encoding improved F3'5'H or a part thereof in reverse orientation relative to its own or another promoter. It further extends to naturally occurring sequences following at least a partial purification relative to other nucleic acid sequences.

The term genetic sequences is used herein in its most general sense and encompasses any contiguous series of nucleotide bases specifying directly, or via a complementary series of bases, a sequence of amino acids in an improved F3'5'H enzyme. Such a sequence of amino acids may constitute a full-length F3'5'H such as is set forth in SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12 or SEQ ID NO: 14 or SEQ ID NO: 16 or SEQ ID NO: 18 or an active truncated form thereof or may correspond to a particular region such as an N-terminal, C-terminal or internal portion of the enzyme. A genetic sequence may also be referred to as a sequence of nucleotides or a nucleotide sequence and include a recombinant fusion of two or more sequences.

In accordance with the above aspects of the present invention there is provided a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence or complementary nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 or having at least about 50% similarity thereto or capable of hybridizing to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 under low stringency conditions.

Alternative percentage similarity encompassed by the present invention include at least about 60% or at least about 70% or at least about 80% or at least about 90% or above, such as about 95% or about 96% or about 97% or about 98% or about 99%.

In a particularly preferred embodiment, there is provided an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence or complementary nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 or having at least about 50% similarity thereto or capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3 or complementary strands of either under low stringency conditions, wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide having an improved F3'5'H activity.

For the purposes of determining the level of stringency to define nucleic acid molecules capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEO ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 reference herein to a low stringency includes and encompasses from at least about 0% to at least about 15% v/v formamide and from at least about 1M to at least about 2 M salt for hybridization, and at least about 1 M to at least about 2 M salt for washing conditions. Generally, low stringency is from about 25-30°C to about 42°C. The temperature may be altered and higher temperatures used to replace the inclusion of formamide and/or to give alternative stringency conditions. Alternative stringency conditions may be applied where necessary, such as medium stringency, which includes and encompasses from at least about 16% v/v to at least about 30% v/v formamide and from at least about 0.5M to at least about 0.9M salt for hybridization, and at least about 0.5M to at least about 0.9M salt for washing conditions, or high stringency, which includes and encompasses from at least about 31% v/v to at least about 50% v/v formamide and from at least about 0.01M to at least about 0.15M salt for hybridization, and at least about 0.01 M to at least about 0.15M salt for washing conditions. In general, washing is carried out $T_m = 69.3 + 0.41$ (G+C)% (Marmur and Doty, 1962). However, the T_m of a duplex DNA decreases by 1°C with every increase of 1% in the number of mismatch base pairs (Bonner and Laskey, 1974). Formamide is optional in these hybridization conditions.

Accordingly, particularly preferred levels of stringency are defined as follows: low stringency is 6 x SSC buffer, 1.0% w/v SDS at 25-42°C; a moderate stringency is 2 x SSC buffer, 1.0% w/v SDS at a temperature in the range 20°C to 65°C; high stringency is 0.1 x SSC buffer, 0.1% w/v SDS at a temperature of at least 65°C.

Another aspect of the present invention provides a nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding or complementary to a sequence encoding an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12 or SEQ ID NO: 14 or SEQ ID NO: 16 or SEQ ID NO: 18 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity thereto.

The term similarity as used herein includes exact identity between compared sequences at the nucleotide or amino acid level. Where there is non-identity at the nucleotide level, similarity includes differences between sequences which result in different amino acids that are nevertheless related to each other at the structural, functional, biochemical and/or conformational levels. Where there is non-identity at the amino acid level, similarity includes amino acids that are nevertheless related to each other at the structural, functional, biochemical and/or conformational levels. In a particularly preferred embodiment, nucleotide and sequence comparisons are made at the level of identity rather than similarity.

Terms used to describe sequence relationships between two or more polynucleotides or polypeptides include "reference sequence", "comparison window", "sequence similarity", "sequence identity", "percentage of sequence similarity", "percentage of sequence identity", "substantially similar" and "substantial identity". A "reference sequence" is at least 12 but frequently 15 to 18 and often at least 25 or above, such as 30 monomer units, inclusive of nucleotides and amino acid residues, in length. Because two polynucleotides may each comprise (1) a sequence (i.e. only a portion of the complete polynucleotide sequence) that is similar between the two polynucleotides, and (2) a sequence that is divergent between the two polynucleotides, sequence comparisons between two (or more) polynucleotides are typically performed by comparing sequences of the two

polynucleotides over a "comparison window" to identify and compare local regions of sequence similarity. A "comparison window" refers to a conceptual segment of typically 12 contiguous residues that is compared to a reference sequence. The comparison window may comprise additions or deletions (i.e. gaps) of about 20% or less as compared to the reference sequence (which does not comprise additions or deletions) for optimal alignment of the two sequences. Optimal alignment of sequences for aligning a comparison window may be conducted by computerized implementations of algorithms (GAP, BESTFIT, FASTA, and TFASTA in the Wisconsin Genetics Software Package Release 7.0, Genetics Computer Group, 575 Science Drive Madison, WI, USA) or by inspection and the best alignment (i.e. resulting in the highest percentage homology over the comparison window) generated by any of the various methods selected. Reference also may be made to the BLAST family of programs as, for example, disclosed by Altschul *et al.* (1997). A detailed discussion of sequence analysis can be found in Unit 19.3 of Ausubel *et al.* (1998).

The terms "sequence similarity" and "sequence identity" as used herein refers to the extent that sequences are identical or functionally or structurally similar on a nucleotide-bynucleotide basis or an amino acid-by-amino acid basis over a window of comparison. Thus, a "percentage of sequence identity", for example, is calculated by comparing two optimally aligned sequences over the window of comparison, determining the number of positions at which the identical nucleic acid base (e.g. A, T, C, G, I) or the identical amino acid residue (e.g. Ala, Pro, Ser, Thr, Gly, Val, Leu, Ile, Phe, Tyr, Trp, Lys, Arg, His, Asp, Glu, Asn, Gln, Cys and Met) occurs in both sequences to yield the number of matched positions, dividing the number of matched positions by the total number of positions in the window of comparison (i.e., the window size), and multiplying the result by 100 to yield the percentage of sequence identity. For the purposes of the present invention, "sequence identity" will be understood to mean the "match percentage" calculated by the DNASIS computer program (Version 2.5 for windows; available from Hitachi Software engineering Co., Ltd., South San Francisco, California, USA) using standard defaults as used in the reference manual accompanying the software. Similar comments apply in relation to sequence similarity.

The nucleic acid sequences contemplated herein also encompass oligonucleotides useful as genetic probes for amplification reactions or as antisense or sense molecules capable of regulating expression of the corresponding gene in a plant. An antisense molecule as used herein may also encompass a genetic construct comprising the structural genomic or cDNA gene or part thereof in reverse orientation relative to its or another promoter. It may also encompass a homologous genetic sequence. An antisense or sense molecule may also be directed to terminal or internal portions of the gene encoding a polypeptide having an improved F3'5'H activity or to combinations of the above such that the expression of the gene is reduced or eliminated.

With respect to this aspect of the invention, there is provided an oligonucleotide of 5-50 nucleotides having substantial similarity or complementarity to a part or region of a molecule with a nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 or a complementary form thereof. By substantial similarity or complementarity in this context is meant a hybridizable similarity under low, alternatively and preferably medium and alternatively and most preferably high stringency conditions specific for oligonucleotide hybridization (Sambrook *et al.*, 1989). Such an oligonucleotide is useful, for example, in screening for improved F3'5'H genetic sequences from various sources or for monitoring an introduced genetic sequence in a transgenic plant. The preferred oligonucleotide is directed to a conserved improved F3'5'H genetic sequence or a sequence conserved within a plant genus, plant species and/or plant variety.

In one aspect of the present invention, the oligonucleotide corresponds to the 5' or the 3' end of the improved F3'5'H genetic sequences. For convenience, the 5' end is considered herein to define a region substantially between the start codon of the structural gene to a centre portion of the gene, and the 3' end is considered herein to define a region substantially between the centre portion of the gene and the terminating codon of the structural gene. It is clear, therefore, that oligonucleotides or probes may hybridize to the 5' end or the 3' end or to a region common to both the 5' and the 3' ends. The present invention extends to all such probes.

In one embodiment, the nucleic acid sequence encoding an improved F3'5'H or various functional derivatives thereof is used to reduce the level of an endogenous an improved F3'5'H (e.g. via co-suppression) or other transcriptional gene silencing (PTGS) processes including RNAi or alternatively the nucleic acid sequence encoding this enzyme or various derivatives or parts thereof is used in the antisense orientation to reduce the level of an improved F3'5'H. The use of sense strands, double or partially single stranded such as constructs with hairpin loops is particularly useful in inducing a PTGS response. In a further alternative, ribozymes could be used to inactivate target nucleic acid sequences.

Still a further embodiment encompasses post-transcriptional inhibition to reduce translation into polypeptide material.

Reference herein to the altering of an improved F3'5'H activity relates to an elevation or reduction in activity of up to 30% or more preferably of 30-50%, or even more preferably 50-75% or still more preferably 75% or greater above or below the normal endogenous or existing levels of activity. Such elevation or reduction may be referred to as modulation of an improved F3'5'H enzyme activity. Generally, modulation is at the level of transcription or translation of improved F3'5'H genetic sequences.

The nucleic acids of the present invention may be a ribonucleic acid or deoxyribonucleic acids, single or double stranded and linear or covalently closed circular molecules. Preferably, the nucleic acid molecule is cDNA. The present invention also extends to other nucleic acid molecules which hybridize under low, preferably under medium and most preferably under high stringency conditions with the nucleic acid molecules of the present invention and in particular to the sequence of nucleotides set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 or a part or region thereof. In its most preferred embodiment, the present invention extends to a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 or to a molecule having at least 40%, more preferably at least 45%, even more preferably at least 55%, still more

preferably at least 65%-70%, and yet even more preferably greater than 85% similarity at the level of nucleotide or amino acid sequence to at least one or more regions of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17 and wherein the nucleic acid encodes or is complementary to a sequence which encodes an enzyme having an improved F3'5'H activity. It should be noted, however, that nucleotide or amino acid sequences may have similarities below the above given percentages and yet still encode an improved F3'5'H activity and such molecules may still be considered in the scope of the present invention where they have regions of sequence conservation. The present invention further extends to nucleic acid molecules in the form of oligonucleotide primers or probes capable of hybridizing to a portion of the nucleic acid molecules contemplated above, and in particular those set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 11 or SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 15 or SEQ ID NO: 17, under low, preferably under medium and most preferably under high stringency conditions. Preferably the portion corresponds to the 5' or the 3' end of the gene. For convenience the 5' end is considered herein to define a region substantially between the start codon of the structural genetic sequence to a centre portion of the gene, and the 3' end is considered herein to define a region substantially between the centre portion of the gene and the terminating codon of the structural genetic sequence. It is clear, therefore, that oligonucleotides or probes may hybridize to the 5' end or the 3' end or to a region common to both the 5' and the 3' ends. The present invention extends to all such probes.

The term gene is used in its broadest sense and includes cDNA corresponding to the exons of a gene. Accordingly, reference herein to a gene is to be taken to include:-

- (i) a classical genomic gene consisting of transcriptional and/or translational regulatory sequences and/or a coding region and/or non-translated sequences (i.e. introns, 5'- and 3'- untranslated sequences); or
- (ii) mRNA or cDNA corresponding to the coding regions (i.e. exons) and 5'- and 3'untranslated sequences of the gene.

The term gene is also used to describe synthetic or fusion molecules encoding all or part of an expression product. In particular embodiments, the term nucleic acid molecule and gene may be used interchangeably.

The nucleic acid or its complementary form may encode the full-length enzyme or a part or derivative thereof. By "derivative" is meant any single or multiple amino acid substitutions, deletions, and/or additions relative to the naturally occurring enzyme and which retains an improved F3'5'H activity. In this regard, the nucleic acid includes the naturally occurring nucleotide sequence encoding an improved F3'5'H or may contain single or multiple nucleotide substitutions, deletions and/or additions to said naturally occurring sequence. The nucleic acid of the present invention or its complementary form may also encode a "part" of the improved F3'5'H, whether active or inactive, and such a nucleic acid molecule may be useful as an oligonucleotide probe, primer for polymerase chain reactions or in various mutagenic techniques, or for the generation of antisense molecules.

Reference herein to a "part" of a nucleic acid molecule, nucleotide sequence or amino acid sequence, preferably relates to a molecule which contains at least about 10 contiguous nucleotides or five contiguous amino acids, as appropriate.

Amino acid insertional derivatives of the improved F3'5'H of the present invention include amino and/or carboxyl terminal fusions as well as intra-sequence insertions of single or multiple amino acids. Insertional amino acid sequence variants are those in which one or more amino acid residues are introduced into a predetermined site in the protein although random insertion is also possible with suitable screening of the resulting product. Deletional variants are characterized by the removal of one or more amino acids from the sequence. Substitutional amino acid variants are those in which at least one residue in the sequence has been removed and a different residue inserted in its place. Typical substitutions are those made in accordance with TABLE 1.

TABLE 1 Suitable residues for amino acid substitutions

Original residue	Exemplary substitutions
Ala	Ser
Arg	Lys
Asn	Gln; His
Asp	Glu
Cys	Ser
Gln	Asn; Glu
Glu	Asp
Gly	Pro
His	Asn; Gln
Ile	Leu; Val
Leu	Ile; Val
Lys	Arg; Gln; Glu
Met	Leu; Ile; Val
Phe	Met; Leu; Tyr
Ser	Thr
Thr	Ser .
Trp	Tyr
Tyr	Trp; Phe
Val	Ile; Leu; Met

Where the improved F3'5'H is derivatized by amino acid substitution, the amino acids are generally replaced by other amino acids having like properties, such as hydrophobicity, hydrophilicity, electronegativity, bulky side chains and the like. Amino acid substitutions are typically of single residues. Amino acid insertions will usually be in the order of about 1-10 amino acid residues and deletions will range from about 1-20 residues. Preferably,

deletions or insertions are made in adjacent pairs, i.e. a deletion of two residues or insertion of two residues.

The amino acid variants referred to above may readily be made using peptide synthetic techniques well known in the art, such as solid phase peptide synthesis (Merrifield, 1964) and the like, or by recombinant DNA manipulations. Techniques for making substitution mutations at predetermined sites in DNA having known or partially known sequence are well known and include, for example, M13 mutagenesis. The manipulation of DNA sequence to produce variant proteins which manifest as substitutional, insertional or deletional variants are conveniently described, for example, in Sambrook et al. (1989).

Other examples of recombinant or synthetic mutants and derivatives of the improved F3'5'H enzyme of the present invention include single or multiple substitutions, deletions and/or additions of any molecule associated with the enzyme such as carbohydrates, lipids and/or proteins or polypeptides.

The terms "analogues" and "derivatives" also extend to any functional chemical equivalent of an improved F3'5'H and also to any amino acid derivative described above. For convenience, reference to improved F3'5'H herein includes reference to any functional mutant, derivative, part, fragment, homologue or analogue thereof.

The present invention is exemplified using nucleic acid sequences derived from pansy, salvia or sollya since this represents the most convenient and preferred source of material to date. However, one skilled in the art will immediately appreciate that similar sequences can be isolated from any number of sources such as other plants or certain microorganisms. All such nucleic acid sequences encoding directly or indirectly an improved F3'5'H are encompassed by the present invention regardless of their source. Examples of other suitable sources of genes encoding improved F3'5'H include, but are not limited to Vitis spp., Babiana stricta, Pinus spp., Picea spp., Larix spp., Phaseolus spp., Vaccinium spp., Cyclamen spp., Iris spp., Pelargonium spp., Liparieae, Geranium spp., Pisum spp.,

Lathyrus spp., Clitoria spp., Catharanthus spp., Malva spp., Mucuna spp., Vicia spp., Saintpaulia spp., Lagerstroemia spp., Tibouchina spp., Plumbago spp., Hypocalyptus spp., Rhododendron spp., Linum spp., Macroptilium spp., Hibiscus spp., Hydrangea spp., Cymbidium spp., Millettia spp., Hedysarum spp., Lespedeza spp., Asparagus spp. Antigonon spp., Freesia spp., Brunella spp., Clarkia spp., etc.

In accordance with the present invention, a nucleic acid sequence encoding an improved F3'5'H may be introduced into and expressed in a transgenic plant in either orientation thereby providing a means either to convert suitable substrates, if synthesized in the plant cell, ultimately into DHM, or alternatively to inhibit such conversion of metabolites by reducing or eliminating endogenous or existing improved F3'5'H activity. The production of these 3'5'-hydroxylated substrates will subsequently be converted to delphinidin-based pigments that will modify petal colour and may contribute to the production of a bluer colour. Expression of the nucleic acid sequence in the plant may be constitutive, inducible or developmental and may also be tissue-specific. The word expression is used in its broadest sense to include production of RNA or of both RNA and protein. It also extends to partial expression of a nucleic acid molecule.

According to this aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for producing a transgenic flowering plant capable of synthesizing an improved F3'5'H, said method comprising stably transforming a cell of a suitable plant with a nucleic acid sequence which comprises a sequence of nucleotides encoding said improved F3'5'H under conditions permitting the eventual expression of said nucleic acid sequence, regenerating a transgenic plant from the cell and growing said transgenic plant for a time and under conditions sufficient to permit the expression of the nucleic acid sequence. The transgenic plant may thereby produce non-indigenous improved F3'5'H at elevated levels relative to the amount expressed in a comparable non-transgenic plant.

Another aspect of the present invention contemplates a method for producing a transgenic plant with reduced indigenous or existing 3',5'-hydroxylase activity, said method comprising stably transforming a cell of a suitable plant with a nucleic acid molecule

which comprises a sequence of nucleotides encoding or complementary to a sequence encoding an improved F3'5'H activity, regenerating a transgenic plant from the cell and where necessary growing said transgenic plant under conditions sufficient to permit the expression of the nucleic acid.

Yet another aspect of the present invention contemplates a method for producing a genetically modified plant with reduced indigenous or existing F3'5'H activity, said method comprising altering the F3'5'H gene through modification of the indigenous sequences via homologous recombination from an appropriately altered improved F3'5'H gene or derivative or part thereof introduced into the plant cell, and regenerating the genetically modified plant from the cell.

As used herein an "indigenous" enzyme is one, which is native to or naturally expressed in a particular cell. A "non-indigenous" enzyme is an enzyme not native to the cell but expressed through the introduction of genetic material into a plant cell; for example, through a transgene. An "endogenous" enzyme is an enzyme produced by a cell but which may or may not be indigenous to that cell.

In a preferred embodiment, the present invention contemplates a method for producing a transgenic flowering plant exhibiting altered inflorescence properties, said method comprising stably transforming a cell of a suitable plant with a nucleic acid sequence of the present invention, regenerating a transgenic plant from the cell and growing said transgenic plant for a time and under conditions sufficient to permit the expression of the nucleic acid sequence.

Alternatively, said method may comprise stably transforming a cell of a suitable plant with a nucleic acid sequence of the present invention or its complementary sequence, regenerating a transgenic plant from the cell and growing said transgenic plant for a time and under conditions sufficient to alter the level of activity of the indigenous or existing F3'5'H. Preferably the altered level would be less than the indigenous or existing level of F3'5'H activity in a comparable non-transgenic plant. Without wishing to limit the present

invention, one theory of mode of action is that reduction of the indigenous F3'5H activity requires the expression of the introduced nucleic acid sequence or its complementary sequence. However, expression of the introduced genetic sequence or its complement may not be required to achieve the desired effect: namely, a flowering plant exhibiting altered inflorescence properties.

In a related embodiment, the present invention contemplates a method for producing a flowering plant exhibiting altered inflorescence properties, said method comprising alteration of the $3^{\circ},5^{\circ}$ -hydroxylase gene through modification of the indigenous sequences via homologous recombination from an appropriately altered improved F3'5'H gene or derivative or part thereof introduced into the plant cell, and regenerating the genetically modified plant from the cell.

Preferably, the altered inflorescence includes the production of different shades of blue or red flowers or other colours, depending on the genotype and physiological conditions of the recipient plant.

Accordingly, the present invention extends to a method for producing a transgenic plant capable of expressing a recombinant gene encoding an improved F3'5'H or part thereof or which carries a nucleic acid sequence which is substantially complementary to all or a part of a mRNA molecule optionally transcribable where required to effect regulation of an improved F3'5'H, said method comprising stably transforming a cell of a suitable plant with the isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding, or complementary to a sequence encoding, an improved F3'5'H, where necessary under conditions permitting the eventual expression of said isolated nucleic acid molecule, and regenerating a transgenic plant from the cell. By suitable plant is meant a plant capable of producing DHK and possessing the appropriate physiological properties required for the development of the colour desired.

One skilled in the art will immediately recognise the variations applicable to the methods of the present invention, such as increasing or decreasing the expression of the enzyme naturally present in a target plant leading to differing shades of colours such as different shades of blue, purple or red.

The present invention, therefore, extends to all transgenic plants or parts of transgenic plants or progeny of the transgenic plants containing all or part of the nucleic acid sequences of the present invention, or antisense forms thereof and/or any homologues or related forms thereof and, in particular, those transgenic plants which exhibit altered inflorescence properties. The transgenic plants may contain an introduced nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding or complementary to a sequence encoding an improved F3'5'H. Generally, the nucleic acid would be stably introduced into the plant genome, although the present invention also extends to the introduction of an improved F3'5'H nucleotide sequence within an autonomously-replicating nucleic acid sequence such as a DNA or RNA virus capable of replicating within the plant cell. The invention also extends to seeds from such transgenic plants. Such seeds, especially if coloured, are useful as proprietary tags for plants. Any and all methods for introducing genetic material into plant cells are encompassed by the present invention.

Another aspect of the present invention contemplates the use of the extracts from transgenic plants or plant parts of transgenic plants or progeny of the transgenic plants containing all or part of the nucleic acid sequences of the present invention and, in particular, the extracts from those transgenic plants when used as a flavouring or food additive or health product or beverage or juice or colouring.

Plant parts contemplated by the present invention includes, but is not limited to flowers, fruits, nuts, roots, stems, leaves or seeds.

The extracts of the present invention may be derived from the plants or plant part in a number of different ways including chemical extraction or heat extraction or filtration or squeezing or pulverisation.

The plant, plant part or extract can be utilized in any number of different ways such as for the production of a flavouring (e.g. a food essence), a food additive (e.g. a stabilizer, a colourant) a health product (e.g. an antioxidant, a tablet) a beverage (e.g. wine, spirit, tea) or a juice (e.g. fruit juice) or colouring (e.g. food colouring, fabric colouring, dye, paint).

A further aspect of the present invention is directed to recombinant forms of improved F3'5'H. The recombinant forms of the enzyme will provide a source of material for research to develop, for example, more active enzymes and may be useful in developing in vitro systems for production of coloured compounds.

Still a further aspect of the present invention contemplates the use of the genetic sequences described herein in the manufacture of a genetic construct capable of expressing an improved F3'5'H or down-regulating an indigenous F3'5'H enzyme in a plant.

Another aspect of the present invention is directed to a prokaryotic or eukaryotic organism carrying a genetic sequence encoding an improved F3'5'H extrachromasomally in plasmid form.

The present invention further extends to a recombinant polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acids substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12 or SEQ ID NO: 14 or SEQ ID NO: 16 or SEQ ID NO: 18 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12 or SEQ ID NO: 14 or SEQ ID NO: 16 or SEQ ID NO: 18 or a derivative of said polypeptide.

A "recombinant polypeptide" means a polypeptide encoded by a nucleotide sequence introduced into a cell directly or indirectly by human intervention or into a parent or other relative or precursor of the cell. A recombinant polypeptide may also be made using cell-free, in vitro transcription systems. The term "recombinant polypeptide" includes an isolated polypeptide or when present in a cell or cell preparation. It may also be in a plant or parts of a plant regenerated from a cell which produces said polypeptide.

A "polypeptide" includes a peptide or protein and is encompassed by the term "enzyme".

The recombinant polypeptide may also be a fusion molecule comprising two or more heterologous amino acid sequences.

A summary of sequence identifiers is provided herewith (Table 2).

TABLE 2 SUMMARY OF SEQENCE IDENTIFIERS

SEQ ID NO:	Name	Description	
1	petunia F3'5'H Hf1.nt	petunia F3'5'H cDNA nucleotide seq (Hf1)	
2	petunia F3'5'H Hf1.aa	translation of petunia F3'5'H (Hf1) seq	
3	petunia F3'5'H Hf2.nt	petunia F3'5'H cDNA nucleotide seq (Hf2)	
4	petunia F3'5'H Hf2.aa	translation of petunia F3'5'H (Hf2) seq	
5	RoseCHS promoter	nucleotide sequence of rose chalcone synthase promoter fragment	
6	D8 oligo#2	oligonucleotide to petunia PLTP (D8) gene	
7	D8 oligo #4	oligonucleotide to petunia PLTP (D8) gene	
8	chrysanCHSATG	oligonucleotide (#583) to chrysanthemum CHS promoter	
9	BP#18.nt	pansy F3'5'H cDNA nucleotide seq (BP#18)	
10	BP#18.aa	translation of pansy F3'5'H (BP#18) seq	
11	BP#40.nt	pansy F3'5'H cDNA nucleotide seq (BP#40)	
12	BP#40.aa	translation of pansy F3'5'H (BP#40) seq	
13 .	Sal#2.nt	salvia F3'5'H cDDIA nucleotide seq (Sal#2)	
14	Sal#2.aa	translation of salvia F3'5'H (Sal#2) seq	
15	Sal#47.nt	salvia F3'5'H cDNA nucleotide seq (Sal#47)	
16	Sal#47.aa	translation of salvia F3'5'H (Sal#47) seq	
17	Soll#5.nt	sollya F3'5'H cDNA nucleotide seq (Soll#5)	
18	Soll#5.aa	translation of sollya F3'5'H (Soll#5) seq	

SEQ ID NO:	Name	Description
19	FLS-Nco	oligonucleotide
20	BpeaHF2.nt	butterfly pea F3'5'H cDNA nucleotide seq
21	BpeaHF2.aa	translation of butterfly pea F3'5'H seq
22	Gen#48.nt	gentian F3'5'H cDNA nucleotide seq (Gen#48)
23	Gen#48.aa	translation of gentian F3'5'H (Gen#48) seq
24	PetD8 5'	nucletide sequence of OGB2.6 promoter fragment (petunia PLTP promoter)

The present invention is further described by the following non-limiting Examples.

EXAMPLE 1

General methods

In general, the methods followed were as described in Sambrook et al. (Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual. (2nd edition), Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, USA, 1989) or Plant Molecular Biology Manual (2nd edition), Gelvin and Schilperoot (eds), Kluwer Academic Publisher, The Netherlands, 1994 or Plant Molecular Biology Labfax, Croy (ed), Bios scientific Publishers, Oxford, UK, 1993.

The cloning vectors pBluescript and PCR script were obtained from Stratagene, USA. pCR7 2.1 was obtained from Invitrogen, USA.

E. coli transformation

The Escherichia coli strains used were:

$DH5\alpha$

supE44, \Box (lacZYA-ArgF)U169, (ø80lacZ \Box M15), hsdR17(r_k , m_k ⁺), recA1, endA1, gyrA96, thi-1, relA1, deoR. (Hanahan, J. Mol. Biol. 166: 557 1983)

XL1-Blue

supE44, hsdR17(r_k', m_k⁺), recA1, endA1, gyrA96, thi-1, relA1, lac', [F'proAB, lacI^q, lacZΔM15, Tn10(tet^R)] (Bullock et al., Biotechniques 5: 376, 1987).

BL21-CodonPlus-RIL strain

ompT hsdS(rB-mB-) dcm+ Tet gal endA Hte [argU ileY leuW Cam¹]
M15 E. coli is derived from E.coli K12 and has the phenotype Nal⁵, Str⁵, Rif⁵, Thi⁻, Ara⁺, Gal⁺, Mtl⁻, F⁻, RecA⁺, Uvr⁺, Lon⁺.

Transformation of the *E. coli* strains was performed according to the method of Inoue *et al.*, (Gene 96: 23-28, 1990).

Agrobacterium tumefaciens strains and transformations

The disarmed Agrobacterium tumefaciens strain used was AGL0 (Lazo et al. Bio/technology 9: 963-967, 1991).

Plasmid DNA was introduced into the Agrobacterium tumefaciens strain AGL0 by adding 5 μg of plasmid DNA to 100 μL of competent AGL0 cells prepared by inoculating a 50 mL LB culture (Sambrook et al., 1989, supra) and incubation for 16 hours with shaking at 28°C. The cells were then pelleted and resuspended in 0.5mL of 85% (v/v) 100mM CaCl₂/15% (v/v) glycerol. The DNA-Agrobacterium mixture was frozen by incubation in liquid N₂ for 2 minutes and then allowed to thaw by incubation at 37°C for 5 minutes. The DNA/bacterial mix was then placed on ice for a further 10 minutes. The cells were then mixed with 1mL of LB (Sambrook et al., 1989 supra) media and incubated with shaking for 16 hours at 28°C. Cells of A. tumefaciens carrying the plasmid were selected on LB agar plates containing appropriate antibiotics such as 50 μg/mL tetracycline or 100 μg/mL gentamycin. The confirmation of the plasmid in A. tumefaciens was done by restriction endonuclease mapping of DNA isolated from the antibiotic-resistant transformants.

DNA ligations

DNA ligations were carried out using the Amersham Ligation Kit or Promega Ligation Kit according to procedures recommended by the manufacturer.

Isolation and purification of DNA fragments

Fragments were generally isolated on a 1% (w/v) agarose gel and purified using the QIAEX II Gel Extraction kit (Qiagen) or Bresaclean Kit (Bresatec, Australia) following procedures recommended by the manufacturer.

Repair of overhanging ends after restriction endonuclease digestion

Overhanging 5' ends were repaired using DNA polymerase (Klenow fragment) according to standard protocols (Sambrook *et al.*, 1989 *supra*). Overhanging 3' ends were repaired using T4 DNA polymerase according to standard protocols (Sambrook *et al.*, 1989 *supra*).

Removal of phosphoryl groups from nucleic acids

Shrimp alkaline phosphatase (SAP) (USB) was typically used to remove phosphoryl groups from cloning vectors to prevent re-circularization according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)

Unless otherwise specified, PCR conditions using plasmid DNA as template included using 2ng of plasmid DNA, 100ng of each primer, 2 μ L 10 mM dNTP mix, 5 μ L 10 x Taq DNA DNA polymerase buffer, 0.5 μ L Taq DNA Polymerase in a total volume of 50 μ L. Cycling conditions comprised an initial denaturation step of 5 min at 94°C, followed by 35 cycles of 94°C for 20 sec, 50°C for 30 sec and 72°C for 1 min with a final treatment at 72°C for 10 min before storage at 4°C.

PCRs were performed in a Perkin Elmer GeneAmp PCR System 9600.

32P-Labelling of DNA Probes

DNA fragments (50 to 100 ng) were radioactively labelled with 50 μ Ci of [α - 32 P]-dCTP using a Gigaprime kit (Geneworks). Unincorporated [α - 32 P]-dCTP was removed by chromatography on Sephadex G-50 (Fine) columns or Microbiospin P-30 Tris chromatography columns (BioRad).

Plasmid Isolation

Single colonies were analyzed for inserts by inoculating LB broth (Sambrook et al., 1989, supra) with appropriate antibiotic selection (e.g. 100 µg/mL ampicillin or 10 to 50 µg/mL tetracycline etc.) and incubating the liquid culture at 37°C (for E. coli) or 29°C (for A. tumefaciens) for ~16 hours with shaking. Plasmid DNA was purified using the alkali-lysis procedure (Sambrook et al., 1989, supra) or using The WizardPlus SV minipreps DNA

purification system (Promega) or Qiagen Plasmid Mini Kit (Qiagen). Once the presence of an insert had been determined, larger amounts of plasmid DNA were prepared from 50 mL overnight cultures using the alkali-lysis procedure (Sambrook et al., 1989, supra) or QIAfilter Plasmid Midi kit (Qiagen) and following conditions recommended by the manufacturer.

DNA Sequence Analysis

DNA sequencing was performed using the PRISM (trademark) Ready Reaction Dye Primer Cycle Sequencing Kits from Applied Biosystems. The protocols supplied by the manufacturer were followed. The cycle sequencing reactions were performed using a Perkin Elmer PCR machine (GeneAmp PCR System 9600). Sequencing runs were generally performed by the Australian Genome Research Facility at The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (Melbourne, Australia) or in-house on an automated 373A DNA sequencer (Applied Biosystems).

Homology searches against Genbank, SWISS-PROT and EMBL databases were performed using the FASTA and TFASTA programs (Pearson and Lipman, 1988) or BLAST programs (Altschul et al., J. Mol. Biol. 215(3): 403-410, 1990). Percentage sequence similarities were obtained using LALIGN program (Huang and Miller, Adv. Appl. Math. 12: 373-381, 1991) using default settings.

Multiple sequence alignments were produced using ClustalW (Thompson et al., Nucleic Acids Research 22: 4673-4680, 1994) using default settings.

EXAMPLE 2

Plant transformations

Petunia hybrida transformations (Sw63 x Skr4)

As described in Holton et al. (Nature, 366: 276-279, 1993) by any other method well known in the art.

Rosa hybrida transformations

As described in US542,841 (PCT/US91/04412) or Robinson and Firoozabady (Scientia Horticulturae, 55: 83-99, 1993), Rout et al. (Scientia Horticulturae, 81: 201-238, 1999) or Marchant et al. (Molecular Breeding 4: 187-194, 1998) or by any other method well known in the art.

Cuttings of Rosa hybrida were generally obtained from Van Wyk and Son Flower Supply, Victoria.

Dianthus caryophyllus transformations

International Patent Application Number PCT/US92/02612 (carnation transformation). As described in PCT/AU96/00296 (Violet carnation), Lu *et al.* (*Bio/Technology 9*: 864-868, 1991), Robinson and Firoozabady (1993, *supra*) or by any other method well known in the art.

Cuttings of *Dianthus caryophyllus* cv. Kortina Chanel or Monte Lisa were obtained from Van Wyk and Son Flower Supply, Victoria.

EXAMPLE 3

Transgenic Analysis

Colour coding

The Royal Horticultural Society's Colour Chart (Kew, UK) was used to provide a description of observed colour. They provide an alternative means by which to describe the colour phenotypes observed. The designated numbers, however, should be taken only as a guide to the perceived colours and should not be regarded as limiting the possible colours which may be obtained.

TLC and HPLC analysis

Generally as described in Brugliera et al. (Plant J. 5, 81-92, 1994).

Extraction of anthocyanidins

Prior to HPLC analysis, the anthocyanin and flavonol molecules present in petal and stamen extracts were acid hydrolysed to remove glycosyl moieties from the anthocyanidin or flavonol core. Anthocyanidin and flavonol standards were used to help identify the compounds present in the floral extracts.

Anthocyanidins in the reaction mixture were analysed by HPLC via gradient elution using gradient conditions of 50%B to 60%B over 10 minutes, then 60% B for 10 minutes and finally 60% B to 100% B over 5 minutes where solvent A consisted of TFA: H₂O (5:995) and solvent B consisted of acetonitrile: TFA: H₂O (500:5:495). An Asahi Pac ODP-50 cartridge column (250 mm x 4.6 mm ID) was used for the reversed phase chromatographic separations. The flow rate was 1 mL/min and the temperature was 40°C. The detection of the anthocyanidin compounds was carried out using a Shimadzu SPD-M6A three dimensional detector at 400-650 nm.

The anthocyanidin peaks were identified by reference to known standards, viz: delphinidin, petunidin, malvidin, cyanidin and peonidin

Stages of flower development

Petunia

Flowers of *Petunia hybrida* cv. Skr4 x Sw63 were generally harvested prior to anther dehiscence at the stage of maximum pigment accumulation.

Carnation

Dianthus caryophyllus flowers were harvested at developmental stages defined as follows:

Stage 1: Closed bud, petals not visible.

Stage 2: Flower buds opening: tips of petals visible.

Stage 3: Tips of nearly all petals exposed. "Paint-brush stage".

Stage 4: Outer petals at 45° angle to stem.

Stage 5: Flower fully open.

Rose

Stages of Rosa hybrida flower development were defined as follows:

Stage 1: Unpigmented, tightly closed bud (10-12 mm high; 5 mm wide).

Stage 2: Pigmented, tightly closed bud (15 mm high; 9 mm wide).

Stage 3: Pigmented, closed bud; sepals just beginning to open (20-25 mm high; 13-

15 mm wide)

Stage 4: Flower bud beginning to open; petals heavily pigmented; sepals have separated (bud is 25-30 mm high and 18 mm wide).

Stage 5: Sepals completely unfolded; some curling. Petals are heavily pigmented and unfolding (bud is 30-33 mm high and 20 mm wide).

Anthocyanin/flavonol measurements by spectrophotometric measurements

Approximately 200mg of fresh petal tissue was added to 2 mL of methanol/1% (v/v) HCl and incubated for \sim 16 hours at 4°C. A 1 in 20 dilution (e.g. 50μ L made to 1000μ L) was then made and the absorbance at 350nm and 530nm was recorded.

The approximate flavonols and anthocyanin amounts (nmoles/gram) were then calculated according to the following formulae:

Anthocyanin content

 $(A_{530} / 34,000)$ x Volume of extraction buffer (mL) x dilution factor x 10^6 mass of petal tissue (grams)

Flavonol content

(A₃₅₀ / 14,300) x Volume of extraction buffer (mL) x dilution factor x 10⁶ mass of petal tissue (grams)

Northern analysis

Total RNA was isolated from petals or leaves using a Plant RNAeasy kit (QIAGEN) following procedures recommended by the manufacturer. For rose samples 1% (w/v) PVP was added to the extraction buffer.

RNA samples (5 µg) were electrophoresed through 2.2 M formaldehyde/1.2% w/v agarose gels using running buffer containing 40 mM morpholinopropanesulphonic acid (pH 7.0), 5 mM sodium acetate, 0.1 mM EDTA (pH 8.0). The RNA was transferred to Hybond-N membrane filters (Amersham) as described by the manufacturer.

RNA blots were probed with ³²P-labelled fragments. Prehybridization (1 hour at 42°C) and hybridization (16 hours at 42°C) of the membrane filters were carried out in 50% v/v formamide, 1 M NaCl, 1% w/v SDS, 10% w/v dextran sulphate. The membrane filters were generally washed in 2 x SSC, 1% w/v SDS at 65°C for between 1 to 2 hours and then 0.2 x SSC, 1% w/v SDS at 65°C for between 0.5 to 1 hour. Membrane filters were generally exposed to Kodak XAR film with an intensifying screen at -70°C for 22 hours.

EXAMPLE 4

Introduction of chimaeric petunia F3'5'H genes into rose

As described in the introduction, the pattern of hydroxylation of the B-ring of the anthocyanidin molecule plays a key role in determining petal colour. The production of the dihydroflavonol DHM, leads to the production of the purple/blue delphinidin-based pigments in plants such as petunia. The absence of the F3'5'H activity has been correlated with the absence of blue flowers in many plant species such as Rosa, Gerbera, Antirrhinum, Dianthus and Dendranthema.

Based on success in producing delphinidin-based pigments in a mutant petunia line (Holton et al., 1993a supra and International Patent Application PCT/AU92/00334), in tobacco flowers (International Patent Application PCT/AU92/00334) and in carnation

flowers (International Patent Application PCT/AU96/00296), chimaeric petunia F3'5'H genes were also introduced into roses in order to produce novel delphinidin-based pigments and modify flower colour.

Preparation of chimaeric petunia F3'5'H gene constructs

TABLE 3 Abbreviations used in construct preparations

Abbreviation	Description
AmCHS 5'	1.2kb promoter fragment from the Antirrhinum majus CHS gene
	(Sommer and Saedler, Mol Gen. Gent., 202: 429-434, 1986)
····	~0.2 kb incorporating BgIII fragment containing the promoter region
CaMV 35S	from the Cauliflower Mosaic Virus 35S gene (CaMV 35S) (Franck et
	al., Cell 21: 285-294, 1980, Guilley et al., Cell, 30: 763-773. 1982)
chrysCHS 5'	promoter region from a chalcone synthase gene from chrysanthemum
GUS	B-glucuronidase coding sequence (Jefferson, et al., EMBO J. 6: 3901-
GUS	3907, 1987)
-	Hybrid promoter consisting of the promoter from the mas gene and a
Мас	CaMV 35S enhancer region (Comai et al., Plant Mol. Biol. 15: 373-
	381, 1990)
	Hybrid promoter consisting of promoter region from CaMV 35S gene
mas/35S	with enhancing elements from the promoter of mannopine synthase
	gene of Agrobacterium tumefaciens (Klee et al., 1985, supra)
mas 5'	Promoter region from mannopine synthase gene of A. tumefaciens
mas 3'	Terminator region from mannopine synthase gene of A. tumefaciens
nos 5'	Promoter region from nopaline synthase gene of A. tumefaciens
	(Depicker, A. et al., J Mol. and Appl. Genetics, 1: 561-573, 1982)
nos 3'	Terminator region from nopaline synthase gene of A. tumefaciens
	(Depicker, A. et al., 1982, supra)

Abbreviation	Description		
nptII	Kanamycin-resistance gene (encodes neomycin phosophotransferase		
	which deactivates aminoglycoside antibiotics such as kanamycin,		
	neomycin and G418)		
ocs 3'	Terminator region from octopine synthase gene of A. tumefaciens		
OCS J	(described in Klee et al., Bio/Technology 3: 637-642, 1985)		
	~3.2kb promoter region from phospholipid transfer protein gene (D8)		
petD8 5'	of Petunia hybrida (Holton, Isolation and characterisation of petal		
peiDo 3	specific genes from Petunia hybrida. PhD thesis, University of		
	Melbourne, Australia, 1992) (SEQ ID NO: 24)		
petD8 3'	terminator region from phospholipid transfer protein gene (D8) of		
регдо 3	Petunia hybrida cv. OGB (Holton, 1992, supra)		
long petFLS	~4.0kb fragment containing the promoter region from flavonol		
5'	synthase gene of P. hybrida		
short petFLS	~2.2kb fragment containing the promoter region from flavonol		
5'	synthase gene of P. hybrida		
petFLS 3'	~0.95kb fragment containing the terminator region from flavonol		
pen LB 3	synthase gene of P. hybrida		
petHf1	Petunia Hfl cDNA clone (Holton et al., 1993, supra) (SEQ ID NO: 1)		
petHf2	Petunia Hf2 cDNA clone (Holton et al., 1993, supra) (SEQ ID NO: 3)		
	Promoter region of an anthocyanidin-3- glucoside		
petRT 5'	rhamnosyltransferase from P. hybrida (Brugliera, Characterization of		
positi b	floral specific genes isolated from Petunia hybrida. RMIT, Australia.		
	PhD thesis, 1994)		
•	Terminator region of a anthocyanidin-3- glucoside		
petRt 3'	rhamnosyltransferase (3RT) gene from P. hybrida (Brugliera, 1994,		
	supra)		
RoseCHS 5'	~2.8kb fragment containing the promoter region from chalcone		
MOSECHIO J	synthase gene (CHS) of Rosa hybrida (SEQ ID: 5)		
			

· Abbreviation	Description
	Chlorsulfuron-resistance gene (encodes Acetolactate Synthase) with its
SuRB	own terminator from Nicotiana tabacum (Lee et al., EMBO J. 7:
	1241-1248, 1988)

Binary vector constructs containing petunia F3'5'H cDNA fragments under the control of various promoters were prepared (Table 4).

Table 4 Summary of chimaeric petunia F3'5'H gene cassettes contained in binary vector constructs used in the transformation of roses, carnations and petunias (see Table 3 for an explanation of abbreviations).

Plasmid F3'5'H cassette	Selectable marke	r;	
	1'3 3 11 cassette	cassette	
pCGP1452	AmCHS 5': petHf1: petD8 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	
pCGP1453	Mac: petHf1: mas 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	
pCGP1457	petD8 5': petHf1: petD8 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	
pCGP1461	short petFLS 5': petHf1: petFLS 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	
pCGP1616	petRT 5': petHf1: nos 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	
pCGP1638	CaMV 35S: petHf1: ocs 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	
pCGP1623	mas 35S: petHf1: ocs 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	
pCGP1860	RoseCHS 5': petHf1: nos 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	
pCGP2123	CaMV 35S: petHf2: ocs 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	

Isolation of petunia F3'5'H cDNA clones (Hf1 and Hf2)

The isolation and characterisation of cDNA clones of petunia F3'5'H (HfI and Hf2 contained in pCGP601 and pCGP175 respectively) (SEQ ID NO: 1 and SEQ ID NO: 3, respectively) have been described in International Patent Application PCT/AU92/00334 and Holton et al. (1993, supra).

Construction of pCGP1452 (AmCHS 5': Hf1: petD8 3'binary)

The plasmid pCGP1452 contains a chimaeric petunia F3'5'H (Hf1) gene under the control of a promoter fragment from the Antirrhinum majus chalcone synthase gene (CHS) (Sommer and Saedler, 1986, supra) with a terminator fragment from the petunia phospholipid transfer protein (PLTP) gene ($petD8\ 3'$) (Holton, 1992, supra). The chimaeric petunia F3'5'H cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the $CaMV\ 35S$: SuRB gene of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNA Plant Technologies, USA = DNAP).

The Ti binary vector pWTT2132

The Ti binary vector plasmid pWTT2132 (DNAP) contains a chimaeric gene comprised of a CaMV 35S promoter sequence (Franck et al., 1980, supra), ligated with the coding region and terminator sequence for acetolactate synthase (ALS) gene from the SuRB locus of tobacco (Lee et al., 1988, supra). An ~60bp 5' untranslated leader sequence from the petunia chlorophyll a/b binding protein gene (Cab 22 gene) (Harpster et al., MGG, 212: 182-190, 1988) is included between the CaMV 35S promoter fragment and the SuRB sequence.

Construction of pCGP725 (AmCHS 5': Hf1: petD8 3' in pBluescript)

A chimaeric petunia F3'5'H gene under the control Antirrhinum majus CHS (AmCHS 5') promoter with a petunia PLTP terminator (petD8 3') was constructed by cloning the 1.6kb BcII/FspI petunia F3'5'H (HfI) fragment from pCGP602 (Holton et al., 1993, supra) between a 1.2kb Antirrhinum majus CHS gene fragment 5' to the site of translation initiation (Sommer and Saedler, 1986, supra) and a 0.7kb Smal/XhoI PLTP fragment (petD8 3') from pCGP13 Bam (Holton, 1992, supra), 3' to the deduced stop codon. The resulting plasmids in a pBluescript II KS (Stratagene, USA) backbone vector were designated pCGP725 and pCGP726 (the only difference between each being the orientation of the expression cassette with respect to the lacZ region).

Construction of pCGP485 and pCGP1452 (AmCHS 5': Hf1: petD8 3'binary vectors)

The chimaeric F3'5'H gene from pCGP725 was cloned into the Ti binary vector pCGN1547 containing an nptII selectable marker gene cassette (McBride and Summerfelt Plant Molecular Biology 14: 269-276, 1990) to create pCGP485. A 3.5kb fragment containing the AmCHS 5': Hf1: petD8 3' cassette was released upon digestion of pCGP485 with the restriction endonuclease PstI. The overhanging ends were repaired and the purified 3.5kb fragment was ligated with SmaI ends of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNAP). Correct insertion of the fragment in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracyline-resistant transformants. The plasmid was designated as pCGP1452.

Plant transformation with pCGP1452

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1452 was introduced into rose, carnation and petunia via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Construction of pCGP1453 (Mac: Hf1: mas 3' binary)

The plasmid pCGP1453 contains a chimaeric petunia F3'5'H (Hf1) gene under the control of a Mac promoter (Comai et al., Plant Mol. Biol. 15: 373-381, 1990) with a terminator fragment from the mannopine synthase gene of Agrobacterium (mas 3'). The chimaeric petunia F3'5'H cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNAP).

A 3.9kb fragment containing the *Mac: Hf1: mas 3'* cassette was released from the plasmid pCGP628 (described in PCT/AU94/00265) upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease *PstI*. The overhanging ends were repaired and the purified fragment was ligated with *SmaI* ends of pWTT2132 (DNAP). Correct insertion of the fragment in a tandem orientation with respect to the *CaMV 35S*: *SuRB* selectable marker gene cassette was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracyline-resistant transformants. The plasmid was designated as pCGP1453.

Plant transformation with pCGP1453

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1453 was introduced into rose, carnation and petunia via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Construction of pCGP1457 (petD8 5': Hf1: pet D8 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP1457 contains a chimaeric petunia F3'5'H (HfI) gene under the control of a promoter fragment from the petunia PLTP gene (petD8 5') with a terminator fragment from the petunia PLTP gene (petD8 3'). The chimaeric petunia F3'5'H cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB gene of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNAP).

Isolation of petunia D8 genomic clone

Preparation of P. hybrida cv. OGB (Old Glory Blue) genomic library in \(\lambda 001 \)

A genomic DNA library was constructed from *Petunia hybrida* cv. OGB DNA in the vector λ2001 (Karn *et al.*, *Gene* 32: 217-224, 1984) using a *Sau*3A partial digestion of the genomic DNA as described in Holton, 1992 (*supra*). Screening of the OGB genomic library for the petunia D8 gene was as described in Holton, 1992 (*supra*).

Isolation of D8 genomic clone OGB2.6

PCR was performed in order to find a non-mutant genomic clone representing D8. Oligo #2 (5' to 3' GTTCTCGAGGAAAGATAATACAAT) (SEQ ID NO: 6) and Oligo #4 (5' to 3' CAAGATCGTAGGACTGCATG) (SEQ ID NO: 7) were used to amplify D8 gene fragments, across the intron region, using 4µL of phage suspension from the clones isolated from the primary screening of the OGB genomic library. The reactions were carried out in a total volume of 50µL containing 1 x Amplification buffer (Cetus), 0.2mM dNTP mix, <1µg of template DNA, 50pmoles of each primer and 0.25µL of Taq polymerase (5 units/µL - Cetus). The reaction mixtures were overlaid with 30µL of mineral oil and temperature cycled using a Gene Machine (Innovonics). The reactions were cylced 30 times using the following conditions: 94°C for 1 minute, 55°C for 50 seconds, 72°C for 2 minutes. One quarter of each PCR reaction was run on an agarose gel using TAE running buffer.

Three clones, λ OGB-2.4, λ OGB-2.5, and λ OGB-2.6, gave fragments of approximately 1 kb whereas the mutant clone, λ OGB-3.2 (described in Holton, 1992, *supra*), had produced a product of 1.25 kb. The λ OGB-2.6 clone was chosen for further analysis.

pCGP382

The genomic clone, λ OGB-2.6, contained a single 3.9 kb XbaI fragment that hybridized with the D8 cDNA. This XbaI fragment was isolated and purified and ligated with the XbaI ends of pBluescriptII KS- (Stratagene, USA). Restriction mapping of this clone revealed an internal PstI site 350 bp from the 3' end. However, the mutant clone, pCGP13, had an internal PstI near the ATG of the coding region (approximately 1.5 kb from its 3' end). The difference in the position of the PstI site in both clones suggested that the λ OGB-2.6 XbaI fragment did not contain the whole genomic sequence of D8. A Southern blot was performed on PstI digested λ OGB-2.6 DNA, and a fragment of 2.7 kb was found to hybridize with the D8 cDNA. Restriction endonuclease mapping confirmed that this fragment contained the 3' coding region and flanking sequences.

In order to obtain a fragment containing the whole D8 genomic sequence, a number of cloning steps were undertaken. The λ OGB-2.6 *Pst*I fragment of 2.7 kb was purified and ligated with *Pst*I ends of pBluescriptII KS- (Stratagene, USA). The resultant clone was digested with *Xba*I to remove the 350 bp *PstI/Xba*I fragment. This fragment was replaced by the 3.9 kb *Xba*I fragment from λ OGB-2.6 to produce the plasmid pCGP382.

A 3.2kb fragment containing the promoter region from the D8 2.6 gene in pCGP382 was released upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases HinDIII and NcoI. The fragment was purified and ligated with the 4.8kb NcoI/HinDIII fragment of pJB1 (Bodeau, Molecular and genetic regulation of Bronze-2 and other maize anthocyanin genes. Dissertation, Stanford University, USA, 1994) to produce pCGP1101 containing a petD85': GUS: nos 3' cassette.

A 1.6kb petunia *HfI* fragment was released from the plasmid pCGP602 (Holton *et al.*, 1993a, supra) (SEQ ID NO: 1) upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases *BspHI*

and BamHI. The fragment was purified and ligated with the 6.2kb Ncol/BamHI fragment of pCGP1101 to produce pCGP1102 containing a petD8 5': Hf1: nos 3' expression cassette.

A 0.75kb BamHI petD8 3' fragment (Holton, 1992, supra) was purified from the plasmid pCGP13 BamHI and ligated with BamHI/Bg/II ends of pCGP1102 to produce the plasmid pCGP1107 containing a petD8 5': HfI: petD8 3' expression cassette.

The plasmid pCGP1107 was firstly linearised upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease XbaI. The overhanging ends were repaired and then the 5.3kb fragment containing the petD8 5': Hf1: petD8 3' expression cassette was released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease PstI. The fragment was purified and ligated with SmaI/PstI ends of the binary vector pWTT2132 (DNAP). Correct insertion of the fragment in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracyline-resistant transformants. The plasmid was designated as pCGP1457.

Plant transformation with pCGP1457

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1457 was introduced into rose, carnation and petunia via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Construction of pCGP1461 (short petFLS 5': Hf1: pet FLS 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP1461 contains a chimaeric petunia F3'5'H (HfI) gene under the control of a promoter fragment from the petunia flavonol synthase (FLS) gene (short petFLS 5') with a terminator fragment from the petunia FLS gene (petFLS 3'). The chimaeric petunia F3'5'H cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB gene of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132.

Isolation of petunia FLS gene
Preparation of P. hybrida cv. Th7 genomic library

A P. hybrida cv. Th7 genomic library was prepared according to Sambrook et al. (1989) using aSau3A partial digestion of the genomic DNA. The partially digested DNA was cloned into EMBL-3 lambda vector (Stratagene, USA).

The Th7 genomic DNA library was screened with ³²P-labelled fragments of a petunia *FLS* cDNA clone (Holton *et al.*, *Plant J.* 4, 1003-1010, 1993b) using high stringency conditions.

Two genomic clones (FLS2 and FLS3) were chosen for further analysis and found to contain sequences upstream of the putative initiating methionine of the petunia FLS coding region with FLS2 containing a longer promoter region than FLS3.

A 6kb fragment was released upon digestion of the genomic clone *FLS2* with the restriction endonuclease *XhoI*. The fragment containing the short petunia *FLS* gene was purified and ligated with *XhoI* ends of pBluescript SK (Stratagene, USA). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP486.

A 9kb fragment was released upon digestion of the genomic clone FLS3 with the restriction endonuclease XhoI. The fragment containing the petunia FLS gene was purified and ligated with XhoI ends of pBluescript SK (Stratagene, USA). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP487.

A 2.2 kb petunia FLS promoter fragment upstream from the putative translational initiation site was released from the plasmid pCGP487 upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases XhoI and PstI. The fragment generated was purified and ligated with XhoI/PstI ends of pBluescript II KS+ (Stratagene, USA). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillinresistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP717.

A 0.95 kb petunia FLS terminator fragment downstream from the putative translational stop site was released from the plasmid pCGP487 upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases HindIII and SacI. The fragment generated was purified and ligated with HindIII/SacI ends of pBluescript II KS+ (Stratagene, USA). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP716.

Construction of pCGP493 (short petFLS 5':petFLS3' expression cassette)

A 1.8kb fragment containing the short petunia FLS promoter fragment was amplified by PCR using the plasmid pCGP717 as template and the T3 primer (Stratagene, USA) and an FLS-Nco primer (5' AAA ATC GAT ACC ATG GTC TTT TTT TCT TTG TCT ATA C 3') (SEQ ID NO: 19). The PCR product was digested with the restriction endonucleases XhoI and ClaI and the purified fragment was ligated with XhoI/ClaI ends of pCGP716. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP493.

Construction of pCGP497 (short petFLS 5': Hf1: petFLS3' expression cassette)

The petunia F3'5'H (HfI) cDNA clone was released from the plasmid pCGP601 (described above) upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases BspHI and FspI. The BspHI recognition sequence encompasses the putative translation initiating codon and the FspI recognition sequence commences 2 bp downstream from the stop codon. The HfI fragment generated was purified and ligated with ClaI (repaired ends)/NcoI ends of the plasmid pCGP493. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP497.

Construction of pCGP1461 (short petFLS 5': Hf1: petFLS3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP497 was linearised upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease SacI. The overhanging ends were repaired and a 4.35kb fragment containing the short petFLS 5': Hf1: petFLS3' gene expression cassette was released upon digestion with the

restriction endonuclease KpnI. The fragment generated was purified and ligated with PstI (ends repaired)/KpnI ends of the Ti binary vector pWTT2132 (DNAP). Correct insertion of the fragment in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of pWTT2132 was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracyline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1461.

Plant transformation with pCGP1461

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1461 was introduced into rose, carnation and petunia via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Construction of pCGP1616 (petRT 5': Hf1: nos 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP1616 contains a chimaeric petunia F3'5'H (HfI) gene under the control of a promoter fragment from the P. hybrida 3RT gene (petRT 5') (Brugliera, 1994, supra) with a terminator fragment from the nopaline synthase gene (nos 3') of Agrobacterium (Depicker, A. et al., J Mol. and Appl. Genetics, 1: 561-573, 1982). The chimaeric petunia F3'5'H cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB gene of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNAP).

P. hybrida cv. Th7 genomic DNA library construction in EMBL3

A Petunia hybrida cv. Th7 genomic library was prepared according to Sambrook et al. (1989) using a Sau3A partial digestion of the genomic DNA. The partially digested DNA was cloned into EMBL-3 lambda vector (Stratagene, USA). Screening of the Th7 genomic library for the petunia 3RT gene was as described in Brugliera, 1994, supra).

A 3kb fragment containing the petRT 5': Hf1: nos 3' cassette was released from the plasmid pCGP846 (described in Brugliera, 1994, supra) upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases PstI and BamHI. The purified fragment was ligated with PstI/BamHI ends of pWTT2132 (DNAP). Correct insertion of the fragment in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette was established by

restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracyline-resistant transformants. The plasmid was designated as pCGP1616.

Plant transformation with pCGP1616

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1616 was introduced into rose, carnation and petunia via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Construction of pCGP1623 (mas/35S: Hf1: ocs 3')

The plasmid pCGP1623 contains a chimaeric petunia F3'5'H (Hf1) gene under the control of the expression cassette contained in pKIWI101 (Klee et al., 1985, supra) consisting of a promoter fragment from the cauliflower mosaic virus 35S gene (CaMV 35S) with an enhancing sequence from the promoter of the mannopine synthase gene (mas) of Agrobacterium and a terminator fragment from the octopine synthase gene of Agrobacterium (ocs 3'). The chimaeric petunia F3'5'H cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB gene of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNAP).

The ~1.6kb fragment of the petunia F3'5'H Hf1 cDNA clone contained in the plasmid pCGP1303 was released upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases BspHI and SmaI. The Hf1 fragment was purified and ligated with a ~5.9 kb NcoVEcoRI (repaired ends) fragment of pKIWI101 (Klee et al., 1985, supra) to produce the plasmid pCGP1619. A partial digest of the plasmid pCGP1619 with the restriction endonuclease XhoI released a 4.9 kb fragment containing the mas/35S: Hf1: ocs 3' expression cassette. The fragment was purified and ligated with SaII ends of pWTT2132 (DNAP). Correct insertion of the fragment in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracyline-resistant transformants. The plasmid was designated as pCGP1623.

Plant transformation with pCGP1623

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1623 was introduced into rose, carnation and petunia via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Construction of pCGP1638 (CaMV 35S: Hf1: ocs 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP1638 contains a chimaeric petunia F3'5'H (Hf1) gene under the control of a CaMV 35S promoter (CaMV 35S) with an octopine synthase terminator (ocs 3'). A ~60bp 5' untranslated leader sequence from the petunia chlorophyll a/b binding protein gene (Cab 22 gene) (Harpster et al., 1988, supra) is included between the CaMV 35S promoter fragment and the Hf1 cDNA clone. The chimaeric petunia F3'5'H cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132.

Plant transformation with pCGP1638

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1638 was introduced into rose, carnation and petunia via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Construction of pCGP1860 (RoseCHS 5': Hf1: nos 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP1860 contains a chimaeric petunia F3'5'H (Hf1) gene under the control of a promoter fragment from the chalcone synthase gene of Rosa hybrida (RoseCHS 5') with a terminator fragment from the nopaline synthase gene of Agrobacterium (nos 3'). The chimaeric petunia F3'5'H cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNAP).

Isolation of Rose CHS promoter

A rose genomic DNA library was prepared from genomic DNA isolated from young leaves of Rosa hybrida cv. Kardinal.

The Kardinal genomic DNA library was screened with ³²P-labelled fragment of rose CHS cDNA clone contained in the plasmid pCGP634. The rose CHS cDNA clone was isolated by screening of a petal cDNA library prepared from RNA isolated from petals of Rosa hybrida cv Kardinal (Tanaka et al., Plant Cell Physiol., 36: 1023-1031, 1995) using a petunia CHS cDNA fragment as probe (clone 1F11 contained in pCGP701, described in

Brugliera et al., Plant J. 5, 81-92, 1994). Conditions are as described in Tanaka et al., 1995 (supra).

A rose genomic clone (*roseCHS20*) was chosen for further analysis and found to contain ~6.4kb of sequence upstream of the putative initiating methionine of the rose *CHS* coding region.

An ~6.4kb fragment upstream from the translational initiation site was cloned into pBluescript KS (-) (Statagene) and the plasmid was designated as pCGP1114.

The plasmid pCGP1114 was digested with the restriction endonucleases *Hind*III and *Eco*RV to release a 2.7-3.0kb fragment which was purified and ligated with the *Hind*III/SmaI ends of pUC19 (NEW ENGLAND BIOLABS). Correct insertion of the rose *CHS* promoter fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1116. The DNA sequence of the rose *CHS* promoter fragment was determined using pCGP1116 as template (SEQ ID NO: 5).

Construction of pCGP197 (RoseCHS 5': GUS: nos 3' in pUC18 backbone)

An ~3.0kb fragment containing the rose chalcone synthase promoter (RoseCHS 5') was released from the plasmid pCGP1116 upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases HindIII and Asp718. The fragment was purified and ligated with a HindIII/Asp718 fragment from pJB1 (Bodeau, 1994, supra) containing the vector backbone, \(\beta\)-glucoronidase (GUS) and nos 3' fragments. Correct insertion of the rose CHS promoter fragment upstream of the GUS coding sequence was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP197.

Construction of pCGP1303 (Hf1 in pUC19 backbone)

The petunia F3'5'H cDNA clone contained in the plasmid pCGP601 (a homologue of the F3'5'H contained in pCGP602 described in Holton et al., 1993a supra) included 64 bp of 5'

untranslated sequence and 141 bp of 3' untranslated sequence including 16bp of the poly A tail. The plasmid pCGP601 was firstly linearised by digestion with the restriction endonuclease BspHI. The ends were repaired and the Hfl cDNA clone was released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease FspI. The BspHI recognition sequence encompasses the putative translation initiating codon and the FspI recognition sequence commences 2 bp downstream from the stop codon. The 1.8kb fragment containing the Hfl cDNA clone was purified and ligated with repaired EcoRI ends of pUC19 (New England Biolabs). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1303.

Construction of pCGP200 (RoseCHS 5': Hf1: nos 3' in pUC18 backbone)

A 1.8kb fragment containing the petunia F3'5'H (Hf1) fragment was released from the plasmid pCGP1303 upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases BspHI and SacI. The Hf1 fragment was purified and ligated with NcoI/SacI ends of pCGP197. Correct insertion of the Hf1 fragment between the rose CHS promoter and nos 3' fragments was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP200.

Construction of pCGP1860 (RoseCHS 5': Hf1: nos 3' in a binary vector)

An ~4.9kb fragment containing the RoseCHS 5': Hf1: nos 3' cassette was released from the plasmid pCGP200 upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease BgIII. The fragment was purified and ligated with BamHI ends of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNAP). Correct insertion of the fragment in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of pWTT2132 was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracyline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1860.

Plant transformation with pCGP1860

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1860 was introduced into rose, carnation and petunia via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

designated as pCGP2000.

Construction of pCGP2123 (CaMV 35S: Hf2: ocs 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP2123 contains a chimaeric petunia F3'5'H (Hf2) gene under the control of a CaMV35S promoter with a terminator fragment from the octopine synthase gene of Agrobacterium (ocs 3'). The chimaeric petunia F3'5'H cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassetteof the Ti binary vector, pCGP1988.

Construction ofpCGP1988 (a derivative of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132)

The binary vector pCGP1988 is based on Ti binary vector pWTT2132 (DNAP) but contains the multi-cloning site from pNEB193 (New England Biolabs). The plasmid pNEB193 was firstly linearised by digestion with the restriction endonuclease *EcoRI*. The overhanging ends were repaired and the multi-cloning fragment was released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease *PstI*. The fragment was purified and ligated with *SaII* (ends repaired)/*PstI* ends of the Ti binary vector pWTT2132 (DNAP). Correct insertion of the multi-cloning fragment into pWTT2132 was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracyline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1988.

Construction of pCGP2000 (CaMV 35S promoter fragment in pBluescript)

The plasmid pCGP2000 was an intermediate plasmid containing the cauliflower mosaic virus (CaMV) 35S promoter fragment in a pBluescript SK (Stratagene, USA) backbone. The CaMV 35S promoter fragment from pKIW101 (Klee et al., 1985, supra) was released upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases XbaI and PstI. The ~0.35kb fragment generated was purified and ligated with XbaI/PstI ends of the vector pBluescript SK. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The plasmid was

Construction of pCGP2105 (CaMV 35S 5' and ocs 3' fragments in pBluescript)

The plasmid pCGP2105 contained a CaMV 35S promoter fragment along with a terminator fragment from the octopine synthase gene of Agrobacterium (ocs 3') both from pKIWI101 (Klee et al., 1985, supra).

The ocs 3' fragment from pKIWI101 (Klee et al., 1985, supra) was isolated by firstly digesting the plasmid pKIW101 with the restriction endonuclease EcoRI, followed by repair of the overhanging ends, and finally by digestion with the restriction endonuclease XhoI to release a 1.6kb fragment. This fragment was then ligated with HincII/XhoI ends of pCGP2000. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The plasmid was designated pCGP2105.

Construction of pCGP2109 (CaMV 35S: Hf2: ocs 3' cassette in pBluescript)

The plasmid pCGP2109 contained the CaMV 35S: Hf2: ocs 3' cassette in a pBluescript backbone.

The 1.8kb petunia F3'5'H Hf2 cDNA clone was released from pCGP175 (Holton et al., 1993a supra) upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases XbaI and SspI. The overhanging ends were repaired and the purified fragment was ligated with PstI (ends repaired)/EcoRV ends of pCGP2105 (described above). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The plasmid was designated pCGP2109.

Construction of pCGP2123 (CaMV 35S: Hf2: ocs 3' cassette binary vector)

The CaMV 35S: Hf2: ocs 3' cassette was released from pCGP2109 upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases Asp718 and XbaI. The overhanging ends were repaired and the resultant ~3.8kb fragment was purified and ligated with repaired ends of Asp718 of the Ti binary vector, pCGP1988. Correct insertion of the fragment in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette was established by

restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracyline-resistant transformants. The plasmid was designated as pCGP2123.

Plant transformation with pCGP2123

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP2123 was introduced into rose, carnation and petunia via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

EXAMPLE 5 Analysis of transgenic roses

Athough over 250 transgenic Kardinal roses were produced (Table 5) none produced flowers with a change in colour. TLC and/or HPLC analysis failed to detect accumulation of any delphinidin pigments. Subsequent Northern analysis on RNA isolated from petal tissue of these transgenic roses revealed either no detectable intact petunia F3'5'H (Hf1 or Hf2) transcripts, or in some cases (see footnotes), degraded transcripts. Hybridization of the same membranes with the selectable marker gene cassette (SuRB) or with an endogenous rose CHS cDNA probe revealed discrete hybridizing transcripts suggesting that the total RNA isolated was intact and confirming the transgenic nature of the lines.

Table 5: Results of transgenic analysis of rose petals transformed with the T-DNA from various petunia F3'5'H (Hf1 or Hf2) gene expression cassettes.

Plasmid	TO COMPANY	Transgeni	Delphinidi	Northern
	F3'5'H cassette	cs	n	
pCGP145	AmCHS 5': petHf1: petD8 3'	34	0/28	0/341
pCGP145	Mac: petHf1: mas 3'	16	0/14	0/13 ²
pCGP145	petD8 5': petHf1: petD8 3'	11 .	0/11	0/11

Plasmid	F3'5'H cassette	Transgeni es	Delphinidi n	Northern
pCGP146	short petFLS 5': petHf1: petFLS 3'	11	0/11	0/11
pCGP161	petRT 5': petHf1: nos 3'	4	0/4	0/4
pCGP162	mas/35S: petHf1: ocs 3'	27	0/20	0/123
pCGP163	CaMV 35S: petHf1: ocs 3'	22	0/14	0/14
pCGP186	RoseCHS 5': petHf1: nos 3'	15	0/13	0/13
pCGP212	CaMV 35S: petHf2: ocs 3'	40	0/26	0/10

Transgenics = number of transgenics produced

Delphinidin = number of transgenic lines with accumulating delphinidin (by TLC or HPLC)/total number of events analysed Northern = number of transgenic lines with detectable intact Hfl or Hf2 transcripts/total numer of events analysed

EXAMPLE 6

Evaluation of promoters in roses

Development of GUS gene expression cassettes.

From the results obtained with *Hf1* and *Hf2* constructs (detailed above) (Table 5) it was unclear which expression cassettes were functional in rose petals. Therefore a number of promoters were linked to the \(\beta\)-glucuronidase reporter gene (GUS) (Jefferson et al., 1987,

¹ Degraded transcripts were detected in 5 of the 34 analysed

² Degraded transcripts were detected in 8 of the 13 analysed

³ Degraded transcripts were detected in 8 of the 12 analysed

supra) and introduced into roses in an attempt to identify expression cassettes that function well in rose flowers.

A summary of the promoters evaluated and transcript levels obtained is given in Table 6.

Table 6: List of GUS chimaeric gene expression cassettes evaluated in roses

Construct	Expression cassette	Selectable marker	Backbone	
number	Expression cassette	gene cassette	DACKDURE	
pCGP130	petD8 5': GUS: petD8 3'	mas 5': nptII ;mas	pCGN154	
7 .	poissos. Gob. peissos	3'	8	
pCGP150	long petFLS 5': GUS:	nos 5': nptII: nos 3'	nDINI10	
6	petFLS 3'	nos 5 . npm. nos 5	ръщита	
pCGP162	chrysCHS 5': GUS: petRT	CaMV 35S: SuRB	pWTT213	
6	3'	Califf 333. Sulta	2	
pCGP164	petRT 5': GUS: petRT 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	pWTT213	
1	peiki 5. GOS. peiki 5	Cant 338. Sukb	2	
pCGP186	RoseCHS 5': GUS: nos 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	pWTT213	
1	Rosechs J. Gos. nos 3	Camp 333, Sukb	2	
pCGP195	AmCHS 5': GUS: petD8 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	pWTT213	
3	America J. God. peiDo 3	Cumy JJD: Bukb	2	
pWTT208	CaMV 35S: GUS: ocs 3'	C-14W 250, C., P.	pWTT213	
4	Cumr 338; GOS; OCS 3	CaMV 35S: SuRB	2	

Construction of pCGP1307 (petD8 5': GUS: petD8 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP1307 contains a chimaeric GUS gene under the control of a promoter and terminator fragment from the petunia PLTP gene (petD8 5' and petD8 3', respectively). The chimaeric GUS reporter gene cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the mas 5': nptII: mas 3' selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector pCGN1548 (McBride and Summerfelt, 1990, supra).

The nos 3' fragment from pCGP1101 (see Example 4) was replaced with the 0.75kb petD8 3' fragment (Holton, 1992, supra) to produce the plasmid pCGP1106 containing a petD8 5': GUS: petD8 3' expression cassette.

The 5.3kb fragment containing the petD8 5': GUS: petD8 3' expression cassette was released from the plasmid pCGP1106 upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases HinDIII and PstI. The fragment was purified and ligated with HinDIII/PstI ends of the Ti binary vector, pCGN1548. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from gentamycin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1307.

Plant transformation with pCGP1307

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1307 was introduced into rose via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Construction of pCGP1506 (long petFLS 5': GUS: petFLS 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP1506 contains a chimaeric GUS gene under the control of promoter and terminator fragments from the petunia flavonol synthase gene (petFLS 5' and petFLS 3', respectively). The chimaeric GUS reporter gene cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the nos 5': nptII: nos 3' selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector pBIN19 (Bevan, Nucleic Acids Res, 12: 8711-8721, 1984).

A 4kb long petunia *FLS* promoter fragment upstream from the putative translational initiation site was released from the plasmid pCGP486 (described in Example 4) upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases *XhoI* and *PstI*. The fragment generated was purified and ligated with *XhoI/PstI* ends of pBluescript II KS+ (Stratagene, USA). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP715.

Construction of pCGP494 (long petFLS 5':petFLS3' expression cassette)

A 4.0kb fragment containing the long petunia *FLS* promoter fragment was amplified by PCR using the plasmid pCGP715 as template and the T3 primer (Stratagene, USA) and an FLS-Nco primer (5' AAA ATC GAT ACC ATG GTC TTT TTT TCT TTG TCT ATA C 3') (SEQ ID NO: 19). The PCR product was digested with the restriction endonucleases *XhoI* and *ClaI* and the purified fragment was ligated with *XhoI/ClaI* ends of pCGP716. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP494.

Construction of pCGP496 (long petFLS 5': GUS: petFLS3' expression cassette)

The GUS coding sequence from the plasmid pJB1 (Bodeau, 1994, supra) was released upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases NcoI and SmaI. The GUS fragment generated was purified and ligated with ClaI (repaired ends)/NcoI ends of the plasmid pCGP494. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP496.

Construction of pCGP1506 (long petFLS 5': GUS: petFLS3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP496 was firstly linaerised upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease XhoI. The overhanging ends were repaired and a 6.7 kb fragment containing the long petFLS 5': GUS: petFLS3' gene expression cassette was released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease SacI. The fragment generated was purified and ligated with BamHI(repaired ends)/SacI ends of the Ti binary vector pBIN19. Correct insertion of the fragment in a tandem orientation with respect to the nos 5': nptII: nos 3' selectable marker gene cassette was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from kanamycin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1506.

Plant transformation with pCGP1506

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1506 was introduced into rose via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Construction of pCGP1626 (chrysCHS 5': GUS: petRT 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP1626 contains a chimaeric GUS gene under the control of promoter fragment from the chalcone synthase gene of chrysanthemum (chrysCHS 5') and a terminator fragment from the 3RT gene of petunia (petRT 3') (Brugliera, 1994, supra). The chimaeric GUS reporter gene cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector pWTT2132 (DNAP).

Isolation of chrysanthemum CHS promoter

A chrysanthemum genomic DNA library was prepared from genomic DNA isolated from young leaf material of the chrysanthemum cv Hero.

The chrysanthemum genomic DNA library was screened with ³²P-labelled fragments of a chrysanthemum *CHS* cDNA clone (contained in the plasmid pCGP856) using high stringency conditions. The plasmid pCGP856 contains a 1.5kb cDNA clone of *CHS* isolated from a petal cDNA library prepared from RNA isolated from the chrysanthemeum cv. Dark Pink Pom Pom.

A genomic clone (CHS5) was chosen for further analysis and found to contain ~3kb of sequence upstream of the putative initiating methionine of the chrysanthemum CHS coding region.

A 4kb fragment was released upon digestion of the genomic clone CHS5 with the restriction endonuclease HindIII. The fragment containing the chrysanthemum CHS promoter was purified and ligated with HindIII ends of pBluescript SK (Stratagene, USA). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of

DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1316.

A 2.6kb chrysanthemum CHS promoter fragment upstream from the putative translational initiation site was amplified by PCR using pCGP1316 as template and primers "chrysanCHSATG" (SEQ ID: 8) and the M13 reverse primer (Stratagene, USA). Primer "chrysanCHSATG" incorporated an NcoI restriction endonuclease recognition sequence at the putative translation initiation point for ease of cloning. The PCR fragment was purified and ligated with EcoRV (dT -tailed) ends of pBluscript KS (Holton and Graham Nuc. Acids. Res. 19: 1156, 1990). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1620.

Construction of pCGP1622 (chrysCHS 5': GUS: nos 3' in pUC backbone)

A ~2.5 kb fragment containing the chrysanthemum CHS promoter was released from the plasmid pCGP1620 upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases NcoI and PstI. The fragment was purified and ligated with a 4.8kb NcoI/PstI fragment of pJB1 (Bodeau, 1994, supra) containing the backbone vector with the GUS and nos 3' fragments. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1622.

Construction of pCGP1626 (chrysCHS 5': GUS: nos 3' in binary vector)

A ~4.6kb fragment containing the chrysCHS 5': GUS: nos 3' cassette was released from the plasmid pCGP1622 upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases PstI and BgIII. The fragment was purified and ligated with PstI/BamHI ends of the Ti binary vector pWTT2132 (DNAP). Correct insertion of the cassette in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1626.

Plant transformation with pCGP1626

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1626 was introduced into rose via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Construction of pCGP1641 (petRT 5': GUS: petRT 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP1641 contains a chimaeric GUS gene under the control of a petunia 3RT promoter (petRT 5') covering 1.1kb upstream from the putative 3RT translation initiation codon with a petunia 3RT terminator (petRT 3') covering 2.5 kb downstream from the 3RT stop codon. The chimaeric GUS cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassetteof the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNAP).

Isolation of petunia 3RT gene

The isolation of the petunia 3RT gene corresponding to the Rt locus of P. hybrida has been described in Brugliera, 1994, supra.

Construction of pCGP1625 (CaMV 35S: GUS: petRT 3' cassette)

The intermediate plasmid pCGP1625 contains a CaMV 35S: GUS: petRT 3' cassette in a pUC backbone. The 2.5kb fragment containing a petRT terminator sequences was released from the plasmid pCGP1610 (described in Brugliera, 1994, supra) upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases BamHI and SacI. The fragment was purified and ligated with the BgIII/SacI 4.9kb fragment of pJB1 (Bodeau, 1994, supra) containing the vector backbone and the CaMV 35S promoter and GUS fragments. Correct insertion of the petunia 3RT terminator fragment downstream of the GUS fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1625.

Construction of pCGP1628 (petRT 5': GUS: petRT 3' cassette)

A 1.1 kb petRT promoter fragment was released from the plasmid pCGP1611 (described in Brugliera, 1994, supra) upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases NcoI and PstI. The purified fragment was ligated with NcoI/PstI ends of the 7kb fragment of pCGP1625

containing the vector backbone and the GUS and petRT 3' fragments. Correct insertion of the petRT promoter fragment upstream of the GUS fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1628.

Construction of pCGP1641 (petRT 5': GUS: petRT 3' binary vector)

A 5.4kb fragment containing the petRT 5': GUS: petRT 3' cassette was released from pCGP1628 upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease PstI. The fragment was purified and ligated with PstI ends of the binary vector pWTT2132 (DNAP). Correct insertion of the fragment in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracyline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1641.

Plant transformation with pCGP1641

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1641 was introduced into rose via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Construction of pCGP1861 (RoseCHS 5': GUS: nos 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP1861 contains a chimaeric GUS gene under the control of a promoter fragment from the CHS gene of R. hybrida (RoseCHS 5') with a terminator fragment from the nos gene of Agrobacterium (nos 3'). The chimaeric GUS reporter gene cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassetteof the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132.

An ~5kb fragment containing the RoseCHS 5': GUS: nos 3' cassette was released from pCGP197 (described in Example 4) upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease Bg/II. The fragment was purified and ligated with BamHI ends of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNAP). Correct insertion of the fragment in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette was established by restriction

endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracyline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated as pCGP1861.

Plant transformation with pCGP1861

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1861 was introduced into rose via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Construction of pCGP1953 (AmCHS 5': GUS: petD8 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pCGP1953 contains a chimaeric GUS gene under the control of a promoter fragment from the CHS gene of Antirrhinum majus (AmCHS 5') with a petunia PLTP terminator (petD8 3'). The chimaeric GUS reproter gene cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNAP).

The plasmid pJB1 (Bodeau, 1994, supra) was linearised with the restriction endonuclease NcoI. The overhanging ends were repaired and the 1.8kb GUS fragment was released upon digestion with BamHI. The GUS fragment was purified and was ligated with the 5kb XbaI(ends repaired)/BamHI fragment of pCGP726 containing the pBluescript backbone vector and the AmCHS 5' and petD8 3' fragments (described in Example 4). Correct insertion of the GUS fragment between the AmCHS 5' and petD8 3' fragments was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from ampicillinresistant transformants. The plasmid was designated as pCGP1952.

A 3.8 kb fragment containing the AmCHS 5': GUS: petD8 3' expression cassette was released from the plasmid pCGP1952 upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases EagI and PstI. The overhanging ends were repaired and the purified fragment was ligated with the repaired ends of an Asp718 digested pWTT2312 Ti binary vector. Correct insertion of the fragment in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracyline-resistant transformants. The plasmid was designated as pCGP1953.

Plant transformation with pCGP1953

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1953 was introduced into rose via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Construction of pWTT2084 (CaMV 35S: GUS: ocs 3' binary vector)

The plasmid pWTT2084 (DNAP) contains a chimaeric GUS gene under the control of a CaMV 35S promoter (CaMV 35S) with an octopine synthase terminator (ocs 3'). An ~60bp 5' untranslated leader sequence from the petunia chlorophyll a/b binding protein gene (Cab 22 gene) (Harpster et al., 1988, supra) is included between the CaMV 35S promoter fragment and the GUS clone. The chimaeric GUS cassette is in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassetteof the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132.

Plant transformation with pWTT2084

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pWTT2084 was introduced into rose via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Transgenic analysisof roses transfromed with GUS expression cassettes

Northern analysis was performed on RNA isolated from petals of developmental stages 3 and 4 of transgenic Kardinal roses transformed with the T-DNA of various GUS expression cassettes. The relative levels of GUS transcripts accumulating in the rose petals were recorded (see Table 7).

Table 7: Summary of Northern analysis on transgenic Kardinal rose flowers (open bud stage) containing GUS constructs.

Construct number	GUS reporter gene cassette	Selectable marker gene cassette	GUS transcrip t levels
pCGP130 7	petD8 5': GUS: petD8 3'	mas 5': nptII :mas 3'	-
pCGP150 6	petFLS 5': GUS: petFLS 3'	nos 5': nptII: nos 3'	_
pCGP162 6	chrysCHS 5': GUS: petRT 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	+++ to
pCGP164	petRT 5': GUS: petRT 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	_
pCGP186	RoseCHS 5': GUS: nos 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	++++
pCGP195	AmCHS 5': GUS: petD8 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	
pWTT208	CaMV 35S: GUS: ocs 3'	CaMV 35S: SuRB	+++++

^{- =} no transcripts detected, + to +++++ = very low to very high levels of transcript detected

Based on the above results (Table 7), the CaMV 35S and Rose CHS promoters appear to promote relatively high levels of transcription in rose petals. The chrysanthemum CHS promoter appears to also lead to high transcript levels but not as high as those achieved using CaMV 35S or Rose CHS promoters. Surprisingly antirrhinum (snapdragon) CHS, petunia 3RT, petunia FLS and petunia PLTP (D8) promoters did not appear to function in rose petals with no detectable GUS transcripts accumulating using expression cassettes incorporating these promoters. These promoters had previously been proven to function

well in carnation and petunia. The result obtained with the antirrhinum CHS promoter linked to GUS was more surprising as the CHS promoters from two other species (rose and chrysanthemum) appeared to function relatively well in roses. The antirrhinum CHS promoter had also been successfully used in conjunction with petunia F3'5'H (Hf1) to produce the novel violet coloured-carnations Florigene Moondust (see International Patent Application PCT/AU96/00296).

These results also provided further evidence to suggest that the petunia *Hf1* and *Hf2* sequences were unstable in roses as constructs containing these sequences ligated to the *CaMV 35S*, *Mac*, rose *CHS* and chrysanthemum *CHS* promoters did not lead to intact *Hf1* or *Hf2* transcripts in roses.

Analysis of the petunia F3'5'H nucleotide sequences (Hf1 and Hf2) did not reveal any instability sequences (Johnson et al., In A look beyond transcription, ASPP, USA, Bailey-Serres and Gallie, eds, 1998), intron: exon splice junctions (Brendel et al., In A look beyond transcription, ASPP, USA, Bailey-Serres and Gallie, eds, 1998), or any autocatalytic or degradation trigger sequences reported in the scientific literature to date (In A look beyond transcription, ASPP, USA, Bailey-Serres and Gallie, eds, 1998).

Since it was not obvious why the petunia F3'5'H sequences were unstable in roses but stable in carnation, petunia or tobacco a number of F3'5'H sequences were isolated across a range of families in an attempt to demonstrate delphinidin production in roses through synthesis of stable F3'5'H transcripts and F3'5'H activity.

EXAMPLE 8

Isolation of F3'5'H sequences from species other than petunia

Construction of petal cDNA libraries

Petal cDNA libraries were prepared from RNA isolated from petals from bud to opened flower stages from various species of plants described in Table 8. Rosa hybrida is classified in the family Rosaciae, Order Rosales, Subclass Rosidae and so species that

produced delphinidin-based pigments and so contained a functional F3'5'H and belonged to the Subclass Rosidae were selected. *Petunia hybrida* is classified in the Family Solanaceae, Order Solanales, Subclass Asteridae and so species from the Subclass Asteridae that produced delphinidin-based pigments were also selected.

Table 8: List of flowers from which cDNA libraries were prepared.

Flower	Species	Family	Order	Subclass	
gentian	Gentiana spp.	Gentianaceae	Gentianales	Asteridae	
pansy	Viola spp.	Violaceae	Malpighiales	Rosidae	
salvia	Salvia spp.	Labiatae	Lamiales	Asteridae	
sollya	Sollya spp.	Pittosporacea	A		
Sollya	вонув эрр.	Apiales e		Asteridae	
kennedia	Kennedia spp.	Leguminosae	Fabales	Rosidae	
butterfly pea	Clitoria ternatea	Leguminosae	Fabales	Rosidae	

Information obtained from (National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) website (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/) under Taxonomy browser (TaxBrowser) (<a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Taxonomy/t

Unless otherwise described total RNA was isolated from the petal tissue of purple/blue flowers using the method of Turpen and Griffith (*BioTechniques 4:* 11-15, 1986). Poly(A)⁺ RNA was selected from the total RNA, using oligotex-dTTM (Qiagen) or by three cycles of oligo-dT cellulose chromatography (Aviv and Leder, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 69:* 1408, 1972).

In general a lambda ZAPII/ Gigapack II Cloning kit (Stratagene, USA) (Short et al., Nucl. Acids Res. 16: 7583-7600) was used to construct directional petal cDNA libraries in \Box ZAPII using around 5 μ g of poly(A)⁺ RNA isolated from petal as template. The total number of recombinants obtained was generally in the order of 1 x 10⁵ to 1 x 10⁶.

After transfecting XL1-Blue MRF' cells, the packaged cDNA mixtures were plated at around 50,000 pfu per 15 cm diameter plate. The plates were incubated at 37°C for 8 hours, and the phage were eluted in 100 mM NaCl, 8 mM MgSO₄, 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 0.01% (w/v) gelatin (Phage Storage Buffer (PSB)) (Sambrook *et al.*, 1989, *supra*). Chloroform was added and the phages stored at 4°C as amplified libraries.

In general around 100,000 pfu of the amplified libraries were plated onto NZY plates (Sambrook *et al.*, 1989, *supra*) at a density of around 10,000 pfu per 15 cm plate after transfecting XL1-Blue MRF' cells, and incubated at 37°C for 8 hours. After incubation at 4°C overnight, duplicate lifts were taken onto Colony/Plaque ScreenTM filters (DuPont) and treated as recommended by the manufacturer.

Plasmid Isolation

Helper phage R408 (Stratagene, USA) was used to excise pBluescript phagemids containing cDNA inserts from amplified \(\lambda\)ZAPII or \(\lambda\)ZAP cDNA libraries using methods described by the manufacturer.

Screening of petal cDNA Libraries

Prior to hybridization, duplicate plaque lifts were washed in prewashing solution (50 mM Tris-HCl pH7.5, 1 M NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 0.1% (w/v) sarcosine) at 65°C for 30 minutes; followed by washing in 0.4 M sodium hydroxide at 65°C for 30 minutes; then washed in a solution of 0.2 M Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 0.1 x SSC, 0.1% (w/v) SDS at 65°C for 30 minutes and finally rinsed in 2 x SSC, 1.0% (w/v) SDS.

The membrane lifts from the petal cDNA libraries were hybridised with ³²P-labelled fragments of a 1.6 kb *BspHI/FspI* fragment from pCGP602 containing the petunia *F3'5'H Hf1* cDNA clone (Holton *et al.*, 1993, *supra*).

Hybridization conditions included a prehybridization step in 10% (v/v) formamide, 1 M NaCl, 10% (w/v) dextran sulphate, 1% (w/v) SDS at 42°C for at least 1 hour. The ³²P-labelled fragments (each at 1x10⁶cpm/mL) were then added to the hybridization solution

and hybridization was continued at 42° C for a further 16 hours. The filters were then washed in 2 x SSC, 1% (w/v) SDS at 42° C for 2 x 1 hour and exposed to Kodak XAR film with an intensifying screen at -70° C for 16 hours.

Strongly hybridizing plaques were picked into PSB (Sambrook et al., 1989, supra) and rescreened to isolate purified plaques, using the plating and hybridization conditions as described for the initial screening of the cDNA library. The plasmids contained in the λ ZAPII or λ ZAP bacteriophage vectors were rescued and sequence data was generated from the 3' and 5' ends of the cDNA inserts. New F3'5'H cDNA clones were identified based on sequence similarity to the petunia HfI cDNA clone.

The cDNA clones isolated were given plasmid designation numbers as described in Table 9.

Table 9: Plasmid numbers and SEQ ID NO. of F3'5'H cDNA clones isolated from various species

C	Oleme.	Plasmid	SEQ	ÍD
Species	Clone	number	NO.	!
Viola spp.	BP#18	pCGP1959	9	
Viola spp.	BP#40	pCGP1961	11	
Salvia spp.	Sal#2	pCGP1995	13	
Salvia spp.	Sal#47	pCGP1999	15	
Sollya spp.	Soll#5	pCGP2110	17	
Kennedia	Kenn#31	pCGP2231	-	
Butterfly	BpeaHF	DYTTO 4	20	
Pea	2	pBHF2 or 4	20	
Gentian	Gen#48	pG48	22	

Isolation of F3'5'H cDNA clones from petals of Viola spp.

Total RNA and poly (A)⁺ RNA was isolated from petals of young buds of *Viola spp*. cultivar black pansy as described above. A petal cDNA library was constructed using lambda ZAPII/ Gigapack II Cloning kit (Stratagene, USA) and screened as described above. Two full-length pansy *F3'5'H* cDNA clones (*BP#18* (SEQ ID NO: 9) in pCGP1959 and BP#40 (SEQ ID NO: 11) in pCGP1961) were identified by sequence similarity to the petunia *Hf1* cDNA clone (SEQ ID NO: 1). The *BP#18* and *BP#40* shared 82% identity at the nucleotide level. Comparison of the nucleotide sequence of pansy *F3'5'H* clones (*BP#18* and *BP#40*) with that of the petunia *F3'5'H* revealed around 60% identity to the petunia *Hf1* clone and 62% identity to the petunia *Hf2* clone.

Construction of binary vectors, pCGP1972 and pCGP1973

(AmCHS 5': pansyF3'5'H #18 or #40: petD8 3')

The plasmids pCGP1972 and pCGP1973 contain the pansy F3'5'H cDNA clone (BP#18 and BP#40, respectively) between an A. majus (snapdragon) CHS promoter fragment (AmCHS 5') and a petunia PLTP terminator fragment (petD8 3'). The chimaeric F3'5'H genes are in tandem with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNAP).

The petunia F3'5'H (HfI) cDNA clone in pCGP725 was replaced with the pansy F3'5'H BP#18 or BP#40 cDNA clone to produce pCGP1970 and pCGP1971 respectively. The AmCHS 5': pansy F3'5'H: petD8 3' cassette was then isolated from pCGP1970 or pCGP1971 by firstly digesting with the restriction endonuclease NotI. The ends of the linearised plasmid were repaired and then the chimaeric F3'5'H genes were released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease EcoRV. The purified fragments were then ligated with Asp718 repaired ends of the Ti binary vector pWTT2132 (DNAP). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmids were designated pCGP1972 and pCGP1973, respectively.

Carnation and petunia transformation with pCGP1972 and 1973

The T-DNAs contained in the binary vector plasmids pCGP1972 and pCGP1973 were introduced separately into *Dianthus caryoplhyllus* cultivars Kortina Chanel and Monte Lisa and *Petunia hybrida* cv. Skr4 x Sw63 via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Construction of binary vectors, pCGP1967 and pCGP1969

(CaMV 35S: pansy F3'5'H: ocs 3')

The binary vectors pCGP1967 and pCGP1969 contain chimaeric CaMV 35S: pansy F3'5'H: ocs 3' genes in tandem with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector, pWTT2132 (DNAP).

The plasmids pCGP1959 and pCGP1961 were firstly linearised upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease *KpnI*. The overhanging *KpnI* ends were repaired and the pansy *F3'5'H* cDNA clones, BP#18 and BP#40, were released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease *PstI*. The ~1.7kb fragments generated were ligated with an ~5.9kb *EcoRI* (repaired ends)/*PstI* fragment of pKIWI101 (Klee *et al.*, 1985, *supra*). Correct insertion of each fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmids were designated pCGP1965 and pCGP1966, respectively.

The plasmids pCGP1965 and pCGP1966 were firstly partially digested with the restriction endonuclease XhoI. The resulting overhanging 5' ends were repaired and then the fragments were further digested with the restriction endonuclease XbaI. The 3.6kb fragments containing the CaMV 35S: pansy F3'5'H: ocs 3' chimaeric genes were isolated and ligated with Asp718 repaired ends of pWTT2132. Correct insertion of each fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmids were designated pCGP1967 and pCGP1969, respectively.

Rose transformation

The T-DNAs contained in the binary vector plasmids pCGP1967 and pCGP1969 were introduced separately into *Rosa hybrida cv*. Kardinal and Soft Promise via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation. The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmids pCGP1969 was also introduced into *Rosa hybrida cv*. Pamela and Medeo via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Isolation of a F3'5'H cDNA clone from petals of Salvia spp.

Total RNA and poly (A)⁺ RNA was isolated from young petal buds of Salvia spp. (bought from a nursery) as described above. A petal cDNA library was constructed using lambda ZAPII/ Gigapack II Cloning kit (Stratagene, USA). Two full-length salvia F3'5'H cDNA clones (Sal#2 (SEQ ID NO:13) in pCGP1995 and Sal#47 (SEQ ID NO:15) in pCGP1999) were identified by sequence similarity with the petunia Hf1 cDNA clone. The Sal#2 and Sal#47 shared 95% identity at the nucleotide level. Comparison of the nucleotide sequence of salvia F3'5'H clones (Sal#2 and Sal#47) with that of the petunia F3'5'H revealed around 57% identity to the petunia Hf1 clone and 58% identity to the petunia Hf2 clone.

Construction of binary vectors, pCGP2121 and pCGP2122

(AmCHS 5': Salvia F3'5'H #2 or #47: petD8 3')

The plasmids pCGP2121 and pCGP2122 contain the salvia F3'5'H cDNA clones (Sal#2 and Sal#47, respectively) between a snapdragon CHS promoter fragment (AmCHS 5') and a petunia PLTP terminator fragment (petD8 3') in tandem with the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector pWTT2132 (DNAP).

The petunia F3'5'H (HfI) cDNA clone in pCGP725 (described in Example 4) was replaced with the salvia F3'5'H #2 or #47 cDNA clones to produce pCGP2116 and pCGP2117, respectively. The AmCHS 5': salvia F3'5'H: petD8 3' cassette was then isolated from pCGP2116 or pCGP2117 by firstly digesting with the restriction endonuclease NotI. The ends of the linearised plasmid were repaired and then the chimaeric F3'5'H gene cassettes were released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease EcoRV. The purified fragments were then ligated with Asp718 repaired ends of the Ti binary vector pCGP1988

(described in Example 4). Correct insertion of each fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmids were designated pCGP2121 and pCGP2122, respectively.

Carnation and petunia transformation with pCGP2121 and pCGP2122

The T-DNAs contained in the binary vector plasmids pCGP2121 and pCGP2122 were introduced separately into *Dianthus caryoplhyllus* cultivars Kortina Chanel and Monte Lisa and *Petunia hybrida* cv. Skr4 x Sw63 via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Construction of binary vectors, pCGP2120 and pCGP2119

(CaMV 35S: salvia F3'5'H: ocs 3')

The binary vectors pCGP2119 and pCGP2120 contain chimaeric CaMV 35S: salvia F3'5'H: ocs 3' gene cassettes in tandem with the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector pCGP1988.

The plasmids pCGP1995 and pCGP1999 were firstly linearised upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease XhoI. The overhanging XhoI ends were repaired and then the salvia F3'5'H cDNA clones Sal#2 or Sal#47 were released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease EcoRI. In the case of pCGP1995 a partial digest with EcoRI was undertaken. The ~1.7kb fragments were ligated with the ClaI (repaired ends)/EcoRI ends of pCGP2105. Correct insertion of each fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmids were designated pCGP2112 and pCGP2111, respectively.

The plasmids pCGP2112 and pCGP2111 were firstly linearised with the restriction endonuclease Xhol. The resulting overhanging 5' ends were repaired and then the fragments were further digested with the restriction endonuclease Xhol. The 3.6kb fragments containing the CaMV 35S: salvia F3'5'H: ocs 3' chimaeric genes were isolated and ligated with Asp718 repaired ends of the Ti binary vector, pCGP1988 (described in Example 4). Correct insertion of each fragment was established by restriction

endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmids were designated pCGP2120 and pCGP2119, respectively.

Rose transformation with pCGP2120 and pCGP2119.

The T-DNAs contained in the binary vector plasmids pCGP2120 and pCGP2119 were introduced separately into *Rosa hybrida cv.* Kardinal via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Isolation of a F3'5'H cDNA clone from petals of Sollya spp.

Total RNA and poly (A)⁺ RNA was isolated from young petal buds of *Sollya spp*. (bought from a nursery) as described above. A petal cDNA library was constructed using lambda ZAPII/ Gigapack II Cloning kit (Stratagene, USA). One full-length Sollya *F3'5'H* cDNA clone (Soll#5 (SEQ ID NO:17) in pCGP2110) was identified by sequence similarity to the petunia *Hf1* cDNA clone. Comparison of the nucleotide sequence of sollya *F3'5'H* clones with that of the petunia *F3'5'H* revealed around 48% identity to the petunia *Hf1* clone and 52% identity to the petunia *Hf2* clone.

Construction of binary vector, pCGP2130 (AmCHS 5': Sollya F3'5'H: petD8 3.')

The plasmid pCGP2121 contains the sollya F3'5'H Soll#5 cDNA clone between a snapdragon CHS promoter fragment (AmCHS 5') and a petunia PLTP terminator fragment (petD8 3') in a tandem orientation with respect to the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector pCGP1988.

The petunia F3'5'H (HfI) cDNA clone in pCGP725 (described in Example 4) was replaced with the sollya F3'5'H cDNA clone to produce pCGP2128. The AmCHS 5': sollya F3'5'H: petD8 3' gene cassette was then isolated from pCGP2128 by firstly digesting with the restriction endonuclease NotI. The ends of the linearised plasmid were repaired and then the chimaeric F3'5'H gene was released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease EcoRV. The purified fragment was then ligated with Asp718 (repaired ends) of the Ti binary vector pCGP1988 (described in Example 4). Correct insertion of the fragment was

established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGP2130.

Carnation and petunia transformation with pCGP2130

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP2130 was introduced into *Dianthus caryophyllus* cultivars Kortina Chanel and Monte Lisa and *Petunia hybrida* cv. Skr4 x Sw63 via *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation.

Construction of binary vectors, pCGP2131 (CaMV 35S: sollya F3'5'H: ocs 3')

The binary vector pCGP2131 contains a chimaeric CaMV 35S: sollya F3'5'H: ocs 3' gene in tandem with the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector pCGP1988.

The plasmid pCGP2110 was firstly linearised upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease Asp718. The overhanging ends were repaired and then the sollya F3'5'H cDNA clone was released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease PstI. The ~1.7kb fragment was ligated with the EcoRV/PstI ends of pCGP2105. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGP2129.

A 3.6kb fragment containing the CaMV 35S: sollya F3'5'H: ocs 3' chimaeric gene was released upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases Asp718 and XbaI The overhanging ends were repaired and the purified fragment was ligated with of Asp718 repaired ends of the Ti binary vector, pCGP1988. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGP2131.

Rose transformation with pCGP2131

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP2131 was introduced into Rosa hybrida cv. Kardinal via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Isolation of a F3'5'H cDNA clone from petals of Kennedia spp.

Total RNA and poly (A)⁺ RNA was isolated from young petal buds of *Kennedia spp*. (bought from a nursery) as described above. A petal cDNA library was constructed using lambda ZAPII/ Gigapack II Cloning kit (Stratagene, USA). One full-length kennedia F3'5'H cDNA clone (Kenn#31 in pCGP2231) was identified by sequence similarity to the petunia Hf1 cDNA clone.

Construction of binary vector, pCGP2256 (AmCHS 5': kennedia F3'5'H: petD8 3')

The plasmid pCGP2156 contains the kennedia F3'5'H (Kenn#31) cDNA clone between a snapdragon CHS promoter fragment (AmCHS 5') and a petunia PLTP terminator fragment (petD8 3') in tandem with the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector pCGP1988.

The petunia F3'5'H (Hf1) cDNA clone in pCGP725 (described in Example 4) was replaced with the kennedia F3'5'H (Kenn#31) cDNA clone to produce pCGP2242. The AmCHS 5': kennedia F3'5'H: petD8 3' cassette was then isolated from pCGP2242 by digesting with the restriction endonucleases NotI and EcoRI. The ends were repaired and the purified fragment was then ligated with Asp718 repaired ends of the Ti binary vector pCGP1988 (described in Example 4). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGP2256.

Petunia transformation with pCGP2256

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP2256 was introduced into Petunia hybrida cv. Skr4 x Sw63 via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Construction of binary vectors, pCGP2252 (CaMV 35S: kennedia F3'5'H: ocs 3') The binary vector pCGP2252 contains a chimaeric CaMV 35S: kennedia F3'5'H: ocs 3' gene in tandem with the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker cassette of the Ti binary vector pCGP1988.

The plasmid pCGP2231 was firstly linearised upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease XhoI. The overhanging ends were repaired and then the kennedia F3'5'H cDNA clone was released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease PstI. The ~1.7kb fragment was ligated with the ClaI (repaired ends)/PstI ends of pCGP2105. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGP2236.

A 3.6kb fragment containing the CaMV 35S: kennedia F3'5'H: ocs 3' chimaeric gene cassette was released from the plasmid pCGP2236 upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases XhoI and NotI. The overhanging ends were repaired and the purified fragment was ligated with Asp718 repaired ends of the Ti binary vector, pCGP1988. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGP2252.

Rose transformation with pCGP2252

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP2252 was introduced into Rosa hybrida cv. Kardinal via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Isolation of a F3'5'H cDNA clone from petals of Clitoria ternatea (butterfly pea).

Construction of butterfly pea petal cDNA library

A blue variety of *Clitoria ternatea* (butterfly pea, the seeds were kindly provided by Osaka Botanical Garden) was grown in a field in Osaka. Total RNA of fresh and pigmented petals at a pre-anthesis stage was prepared as mentioned above. PolyA⁺ RNA was prepared using Oligotex (Takara) according to the manufacturer's recommendation. A petal cDNA

library of butterfly pea was constructed from the polyA⁺ RNA using a directional □ZAP-cDNA synthesis kit (Stratagene, USA) following the manufacturer's protocols.

Screening of butterfly pea cDNA library for a F3'5'H cDNA clone

The butterfly pea petal cDNA library was screened with DIG-labelled petunia HfI cDNA clone as described previously (Tanaka et al. Plant Cell Physiol. 1996,37:711-716). Two cDNA clones that showed high similarity to HfI were identified. The plasmid containing the longest cDNA clone was designated pBHF2 and the cDNA clone was sequenced (SEQ ID NO: 20). Alignment between the deduced amino acid sequences of the butterfly pea F3'5'H clone and the petunia HfI clone revealed that the butterfly pea F3'5'H cDNA (contained in pBHF2) did not represent a full-length cDNA and lacked first 2 bases of the putative initiation codon. These two bases along with a BamHI restriction endonuclease recognition site were added to the cDNA clone using PCR and a synthetic primer, 5'-GGGATCCAACAATGTTCCTTCTAAGAGAAAT-3' [SEQ ID NO:25] as described previously (Yonekura-Sakakibara et al. Plant Cell Physiol. 2000, 41:495-502). The resultant fragment was digested with the restriction endonucleases BamHI and PstI and the subsequent DNA fragment of about 200 bp was recovered. The DNA fragment was ligated with a 3.3 kb fragment of BamHI/EcoRI digested pBHF2 to yield pBHF2F. The DNA sequence was confirmed to exclude errors made during PCR.

Comparison of the nucleotide sequence of butterfly pea F3'5'H clone with that of the petunia F3'5'H revealed around 59% identity to the petunia Hf1 clone and 62% identity to the petunia Hf2 clone.

Construction of binary vector, pCGP2135 (AmCHS 5': butterfly pea F3'5'H: petD8 3')

The plasmid pCGP2156 contains the butterfly pea F3'5'H cDNA clone between a snapdragon CHS promoter fragment (AmCHS 5') and a petunia PLTP terminator fragment (petD8 3') in tandem with the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector pCGP1988.

The petunia F3'5'H (HfI) cDNA clone in pCGP725 (described in Example 4) was replaced with the butterfly pea F3'5'H cDNA clone to produce pCGP2133. The AmCHS 5': butterfly pea F3'5'H: petD8 3' cassette was then isolated from pCGP2133 by firstly digesting with the restriction endonuclease NotI. The ends of the linearised plasmid were repaired and then the chimaeric F3'5'H gene was released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease EcoRV. The purified fragment was then ligated with Asp718 repaired ends of the Ti binary vector pCGP1988 (described in Example 4). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGP2135.

Carnation and petunia transformation with pCGP2135

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP2135 was introduced into Dianthus caryophyllus cultivars Kortina Chanel and Monte Lisa and Petunia hybrida cv. Skr4 x Sw63 via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Construction of the binary vector, pBEBHF2 (CaMV 35S: Butterfly pea F3'5'H: nos 3')
The Ti binary vector, pBE2113-GUS contains a GUS coding region between an enhanced CaMV 35S promoter and nos terminator (Mitsuhara et al., Plant Cell Physiol. 37, 49-59, 1996). The plasmid pBE2113-GUS was digested with the restriction endonuclease SacI. The overhanging ends were repaired and then ligated with a SalI linker to yield pBE2113-GUSs. The 1.8 kb BamHI-XhoI fragment from pBHF2F was ligated with BamHI-SalI digested pBE2113-GUSs to create pBEBHF2.

Rose transformation with pBEBHF

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pBEBHF was introduced into Rosa hybrida cultivar Lavande via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Construction of binary vectors, pCGP2134 (CaMV 35S: butterfly pea F3'5'H: ocs 3')

The binary vector pCGP2134 contains a chimaeric CaMV 35S: butterfly pea F3'5'H: ocs 3' gene cassette in a tandem orientation with the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector pCGP1988.

The butterfly pea F3'5'H cDNA clone was released upon digestion of the plasmid pBHF53 with the restriction endonucleases XhoI and BamHI. The overhanging ends were repaired and the ~1.7kb fragment was ligated with the PstI (repaired ends)/EcoRV ends of pCGP2105 (described in Example 4). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGP2132.

A 3.6kb fragment containing the CaMV 35S: butterfly pea F3'5'H: ocs 3' chimaeric gene cassette was released upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases XhoI and XbaI. The overhanging ends were repaired and the purified fragment was ligated with Asp718 repaired ends of the Ti binary vector, pCGP1988 (described in Example 4). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGP2134.

Rose transformation with pCGP2134

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP2134 was introduced into Rosa hybrida cv. Kardinal via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Isolation of a F3'5'H cDNA clone from petals of Gentiana triflora (gentian).

Construction and screening of a gentian petal cDNA library

The isolation of a gentian cDNA encoding F3'5'H has been described previously (Tanaka et al. Plant Cell Physiol. 1996, 37:711-716). Comparison of the nucleotide sequence of the gentian F3'5'H clone (Gen#48) (SEQ ID NO:22) with that of the petunia F3'5'H revealed around 61% identity to the petunia Hf2 clone and 64% identity to the petunia Hf2 clone.

Construction of binary vector, pCGP1498 (AmCHS 5': gentian F3'5'H: petD8 3')

The plasmid pCGP2121 contains the gentian F3'5'H (Gen#48) cDNA clone between a snapdragon CHS promoter fragment (AmCHS 5') and a petunia PLTP terminator fragment (petD8 3') in tandem with the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector pWTT2132.

The petunia F3'5'H (Hf1) cDNA clone in pCGP725 (described in Example 4) was replaced with the gentian F3'5'H (Gen#48) cDNA clone to produce pCGP1496. The AmCHS 5': gentian F3'5'H: petD8 3' cassette was then isolated from pCGP1496 by firstly digesting with the restriction endonuclease NotI. The overhanging ends of the linearised plasmid were repaired and then the chimaeric F3'5'H gene was released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease EcoRV. The purified fragment was then ligated with Asp718 repaired ends of the Ti binary vector pWTT2132. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGP1498.

Carnation and petunia transformation with pCGP1498

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1498 was introduced into Dianthus caryophyllus cultivars Kortina Chanel and Monte Lisa and Petunia hybrida cv. Skr4 x Sw63 via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Construction of the binary vector, pBEGHF48 (CaMV 35S: gentian F3'5'H: nos 3')

The gentian F3'5'H cDNA clone was released by digestion of the plasmid pG48 with the restriction endonucleases BamHI and XhoI. The resulting 1.8 kb DNA fragment was isolated and ligated with BamHI/SaII digested pBE2113-GUSs (Mitsuhara et al., 1996, supra) to create pBEGHF48.

Rose transformation with pBEGHF48

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pBEGHF48 was introduced into Rosa hybrida cv. Lavande via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

Construction of binary vectors, pCGP1982 (CaMV 35S: gentian F3'5'H: ocs 3')
The binary vector pCGP1982 contains a chimaeric CaMV 35S: gentian F3'5'H: ocs 3' gene cassette in tandem with the CaMV 35S: SuRB selectable marker gene cassette of the Ti binary vector pWTT2132.

The plasmid pG48 was firstly linearised upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease Asp718. The overhanging ends were repaired and then the gentian F3'5'H cDNA clone (Gen#48) was released upon digestion with the restriction endonuclease BamHI. The ~1.7kb fragment was ligated with the 5.95kb EcoRI (repaired ends)/BamHI fragment of pKIWI101 (Klee et al., 1985, supra). Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from ampicillin-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGP1981.

A 3.6kb fragment containing the CaMV 35S: gentian F3'5'H: ocs 3' chimaeric gene cassette was released upon digestion with the restriction endonucleases XhoI and XbaI The overhanging ends were repaired and the purified fragment was ligated with repaired ends of Asp718 digested Ti binary vector, pWTT2132. Correct insertion of the fragment was established by restriction endonuclease analysis of plasmid DNA isolated from tetracycline-resistant transformants. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGP1982.

Rose transformation with pCGP1982

The T-DNA contained in the binary vector plasmid pCGP1982 was introduced into Rosa hybrida cv. Kardinal via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.

EXAMPLE 9

Analysis of transgenic carnation, petunia and rose

Transgenic analysis of events transfromed with the T-DNA of binary vectors described in Example 9 included detection of F3'5'H activity via the presence of the 3'5'-hydroxylated

anthocyanidin, delphinidin or in the case of petunia, its derivatives such as malvidin, and detection of intact transcripts of the introduced F3'5'H (see Tables 10, 11 and 12).

CARNATION

Table 10: Results of levels of delphinidin produced in transgenic carnations using various F3'5'H gene expression cassettes (AmCHS 5': F3'5'H: petD8 3').

F3'5'H	pCGP	Cv.	#tg	TLC	HPL	Highest	Av.	Norther
clone				+	C	% del	% del	n
					+			+
Calada#0	2121	KC	22	2/16	3/4	12.5%	7%	nd
Salvia#2	2121	ML	21	17/18	9/9	76%	57%	14/15
Salvia#47	2122	KC	23	6/12	8/8	29%	12%	nd
Salvia#47	2122	ML	25	21/22	17/17	88%	56%	12/14
	2130	KC	30	22/27	17/17	35%	11%	nd
Sollya	2130	ML	23	14/15	14/14	76%	49%	13/14
Butterfly	2135	KC	22	0/16	0/1	nd	nd	nd
pea	2135	ML	24	19/20	13/13	23%	10%	14/14
C4:	1498	KC	22	0/14	nd	nd	nd	7/8
Gentian	1498	ML	2	2/2	1/1			1/2
pansy	1972	KC	26	18/20	12/12	14%	9%	19/19
BP#18	1972	ML	21	15/16	8/8	80%	66%	14/16
pansy	1973	KC	26	11/15	7/8	18%	8%	13/17
BP#40	1973	ML	33	19/22	20/20	72%	52%	12/15
maturia Uff	1452	KC	104	41/64		3.5%	1.3%	15/17
petunia Hfl	1452	ML	48	39/41	26/26	75%	30%	12/13
petunia Hf2	1524	ML	27	18/19	17/17	81%	41%	12/14

Cv. = cultivar, KC = Kortina Chanel (cyanidin line), ML = Monte Lisa (pelargonidin line) #tg = # of transgenics produced TLC + = number of individual events that accumulated detectable delphinidin (as determined by TLC) / the number of individual events analysed

HPLC + = number of individual events that accumulated detectable delphinidin (as determined by HPLC) / the number of individual events analysed

Highest % del = Highest % delphinidin recorded for the population.

Av % del = average % delphinidin detected in population.

Northern = number of individual events with detectable F3'5H transcripts / the number analysed

Kortina Chanel produces pink coloured flowers that normally accumulate cyanidin-based anthocyanins. This cultivar therefore contains a functional carnation F3'H and DFR activity that the introduced F3'5'H would need to compete with for substrate. Monte Lisa produces brick red coloured flowers that normally accumulate pelargonidin. This cultivar is thought to lack a fully functional F3'H activity and contain a DFR that is capable of acting on DHK and thus the introduced F3'5'H would only be required to compete with the endogenous DFR for substrate.

The results suggest that all of the F3'5'H sequences tested (petunia Hf1, petunia Hf2, Salvia Sal#2, Salvia Sal#47, Sollya Sol#5, Butterfly pea BpeaHF2, pansy BP#18, pansy BP#40 and Gentian Gen#48) were functional in carnation and resulted in the production of novel delphinidin-based pigments in carnation flowers.

PETUNIA

Table 11: Results of analysis of transgenic P. hybrida cv Skr4 x Sw63 using various F3'5'H gene expression cassettes (AmCHS 5': F3'5'H: petD8 3').

F3'5'H	pCGP	# tg	TLC Col † A/c	Best	Av.	Norther	Best		
			+	Coi	IAC	Desi	Av.	n+	colour
Gentian	1498	22	3/5	18/20	nd			6/6	72B/78
Genuan	1498	22	3/3	10/20	na -			0,0	A
Butterfly	2135	24	18/20	22/24	23/24	4427	2397		74A/78
pea	2133	27	16/20	22/24	25/24	772,	2377		A
Kennedi	2256	24	22/24	22/24	22/24	4212	2592	nd	74A/78
a	2230		LLILT	22,24	LLILT	4212	2332	na	A
Salvia2	2121	24	21/24	21/24	21/24	2471	1730		78A
Salvia47	2122	19	17/19	16/19	16/19	2634	1755		78A/80
Darvia	2122								A
Sollya	2130	22	14/16	13/16	13/16	3446	1565		78A
pansy 18	1972	22	nd	20/22	nd			9/9	74A/B
pansy 40	1973	19	8/8	18/19	18/20	2583	1556		74/78A
petunia	484	16	nd	9/16	8/15	2683	1250		74A/B
Hfl	10-1			7710	0,10	2005	1200		
petunia	1524	20	nd	18/20	8/8	4578	2357	8/8	74A/B
Hf2	1		""	10,20	3.0	,			
control						144-			75C
						250			

#tg = # of transgenics produced

TLC + = number of individual events that accumulated detectable malvidin (above the Skr4 x Sw63 background) (as determined by TLC) / the number of individual events analysed

Col = number of individual events that had a change in phenotype/ number examined

† A/c = number of individual events that had an increased level of anthocyanins as measured by spectrophotometric analysis / the number of individual events analysed (in μ moles/g)

Best = the highest anthocyanin amount found in an individual event (in µmoles/g)

Av = the average anthocyaninin levels detected (in μ moles/g).

Northern = number of individual events with detectable F3'5H transcripts over the number analysed

Best colour = most intense colour recorded for the transgenic population.

Introduction of the F3'5'H cDNA clones into Skr4 x SW63 led to a dramatic flower colour change from pale lilac to purple and to the production of malvidin in the petals. Malvidin is the methylated derivative of the 3'5'-hydroxylated pigment, delphinidin (Figures 1a and 1b). Only a small amount of malvidin is normally detected in the non-transgenic Skr4 x SW63 control. Although Skr4 x SW63 is homozygous recessive for both the Hf1 and Hf2 genes, these mutations do not completely block production of F3'5'H (see US Patent Number 5,349,125) and low levels of malvidin are produced to give the petal limb a pale lilac colour.

The results suggest that all of the F3'5'H sequences tested (petunia Hf1, petunia Hf2, Salvia Sal#2, Salvia Sal#47, Sollya Sol#5, Butterfly pea BpeaHF2, pansy BP#18, pansy BP#40, Gentian Gen#48, Kennedia Kenn#31) were functional in petunia and resulted in the complementation of the Hf1 or Hf2 mutation in the Skr4 x SW63 petunia line (see Holton et al., 1993, supra).

<u>ROSE</u>

Table 12: Results of levels of delphinidin produced in transgenic roses using various F3'5'H gene expression cassettes (CaMV 35S: F3'5'H: ocs 3').

F3'5'H	pCGP	Cult	#tg	TLC+	HPL C +	Highest % del	Av. % del	Norther n +
Salvia2	2120	Kard	30	18/20	21/21	12%	5%	18/18
Salvia47	2119	Kard	22	11/16	9/9	7.1%	2%	12/15
Sollya	2131	Kard	27	0/23	2/2	1%	0.5%	6/6
Butterfly pea	2134	Kard	29	0/15				0/9
	pBEBF	Lav				0%	0%	
Gentian	1482	Kard	27	0/23				0/23
•	pBEGH 1	Lav				0%	0%	
pansy BP18	1967	Kard	56	30/33	33/34	58%	12%	21/21
	1967	SP	36	21/24	18/18	65%	35%	16/21
pansy BP40	1969	Kard	22	15/15	15/15	24%	9%	16/16
	1969	SP	37	17/17	16/17	80%	54%	11/13
	1969	Mede o	23	5/6	5/5	94%	91%	9/9
	1969	Pamel a	15		4/4	90%	67%	1/1
Petunia Hf1	1638	Kard	22	0/21				1/17?
	1392	Lav				0%	0%	
Petunia Hf2	2123	Kard	41	1/27?	1/1?	nd	nd	0/10

Cult = cultivar, Kard = Kardinal, SP = Soft Promise, Lav = Lavande

#tg = # of transgenics produced

TLC + = number of individual events that accumulated detectable delphinidin (as determined by TLC) over the number of individual events analysed

HPLC + = number of individual events that accumulated detectable delphinidin (as determined by HPLC) over the number of individual events analysed

Northern = number of individual events with detectable F3'5H transcripts over the number analysed

The cultivar Kardinal produces red coloured flowers that normally accumulate cyanidin-based anthocyanins. This cultivar therefore contains functional rose F3'H and DFR activities that the introduced F3'5'H would need to compete with for substrate. The cultivar Soft Promise produces apricot coloured flowers that normally accumulate pelargonidin. This cultivar is thought to lack a fully functional rose F3'H activity and contain a DFR that is capable of acting on DHK and thus the introduced F3'5'H would only be required to compete with the endogenous rose DFR for substrate.

The results suggest surprisingly that not all of the F3'5'H sequences assessed (petunia Hf1, petunia Hf2, Salvia Sal#2, Salvia Sal#47, Sollya Sol#5, Butterfly pea BpeaHF2, pansy BP#18, pansy BP#40, Gentian Gen#48, Kennedia Kenn#31) were functional in rose. In fact transcripts of the introduced F3'5'H clones isolated from Butterfly pea, gentian, petunia Hf1 and petunia Hf2 failed to accumulate in rose petals. Only F3'5'H transcripts from pansy, salvia, kennedia and sollya accumulated in rose petals. However although Kennedia F3'5'H transcripts did accumulate in rose petals, there was either no accumulation of the enzyme or the enzyme produced was either not functional or was unable to compete with the endogenous rose F3'H and DFR enzymes to allow for the production of delphinidin pigments. Only the F3'5'H clones from salvia (Sal#2 and Sal#47), pansy (BP#18 and BP#40) and Sollya (Soll#5) resulted in the production of delphinidin based pigments in rose petals. Based on the relative percentages of delphinidin produced in rose petals, the F3'5'H clones from pansy (BP#18 and BP#40) were revealed to be the most effective of those assessed at producing delphinidin in rose petals.

As described in the introduction, copigmentation with other flavonoids, further modification of the anthocyanidin molecule and the pH of the vacuole impact on the colour produced by anthocyanins. Therefore selection of rose cultivars with relatively high levels of flavonois and relatively high vacuolar pH would result in bluer flower colours upon production of delphinidin pigments.

The rose cultivar Medeo generally produces cream-coloured to pale apricot flowers (RHSCC 158C to 159A). HPLC analysis of the anthocyanidins and flavonols accumulating in Medeo rose petals revealed that the petals accumulate high levels of flavonols (2.32mg/g kaempferol, 0.03mg/g quercetin) and very low levels of anthocyanins (0.004mg/g cyanidin, 0.004mg/g pelargonidin). The estimated vacuolar pH of Medeo petals is around 4.6.

The rose cultivar Pamela produces white to very pale pink coloured flowers. It similarly accumulates low levels of anthocyanin and relatively high levels of flavonols.

The T-DNA contained in the construct pCGP1969 incorporating the pansy F3'5'H clone, BP#40, was also introduced into the rose cultivars Medeo and Pamela resulting in the production of over 90% delphinidin in these roses and leading to a dramatic colour change and novel coloured flowers. The most dramatic colour change in transgenic Medeo flowers was to a purple/violet colour of RHSCC 70b, 70c, 80c, 186b. The most dramatic colour change in transgenic Pamela flowers was to a purple/violet colour of RHSCC 71c, 60c, 71a, 80b.

In conclusion, two unexpected findings were revealed when gene sequences that had been proven to lead to functionality in petunia and carnation were introduced into roses.

The first was that it was not obvious which promoters would be effective in rose. Promoter cassettes that had been tested in carnation and petunia did not lead to accumulation of detectable transcripts in rose. Of the promoters tested in rose, only CaMV 35S, RoseCHS

5', ChrysCHS 5', mas 5' and nos 5' promoters led to intact and detectable GUS or nptII or SuRB transcript accumulation in rose.

Secondly the petunia F3'5'H Hf1 (and Hf2) sequences that had resulted in novel colour production in carnation and also proven to lead to synthesis of a functional enzyme in petunia did not lead to transcript accumulation in rose petals. In fact there was either no accumulation of detectable transcript or the transcripts that were detected were degraded and were seen as a smear or "blob" on RNA blots indicating the presence of low MW heterologous hybridizing RNA. Therefore in order to find a F3'5'H sequence that would accumulate in rose and lead to a functional enzyme, a number of F3'5'H sequences were isolated. Again it was not obvious which sequence would lead to an active enzyme in rose petals. All of the F3'5'H sequences isolated were tested for functionality in carnation and/or petunia and lead to accumulation of intact transcripts and production of a functional F3'5'H activity. However only F3'5'H sequences from pansy (BP#18 and BP#40), salvia (Sal#2 and Sal#47) and sollya (Soll#5) resulted in accumulation of intact transcripts and production of a functional enzyme in rose as measured by the synthesis of delphinidin.

Table 13 shows a summary of the results obtained when assessing F3'5'H sequences from various species in petunia, carnation and rose.

Table 13: Summary of effectiveness of the F3'5'H sequences in petunia, carnation and rose

F3'5'H	Petun	ia	Carnation		Rose	
13311	Mal	RNA	Del	RNA	Del	RNA
Kennedia (Kenn#31)	+	nd	nd	nd	-	+
Gentian (Gen#48)	+	+	+	+	-	-
Salvia (Sal#2)	+	nd	+	+	+	+
Salvia (Sal#47)	+	nd	+	+	+	+
Sollya (Sol#5)	+	nd	+	+	+	+
Butterfly pea	+	nd	+	+	-	-
Pansy (BP#18)	+	+	+	+	+.	+
Pansy (<i>BP#40</i>)	+	nd	+	+	+	+
Petunia (Hf1)	+	+	+	+	-	-
Petunia (Hf2)	+	+	+	+	-	-

nd = not done

Mal = malvidin detected by TLC, Del = delphinidin detected by TLC or HPLC

EXAMPLE 10 Use of pansy F3'5'H sequences in species other than rose

From the examples above it was clear that the pansy F3'5'H sequences, BP#18 and BP#40, resulted in functional F3'5'H activity and lead to the production of high levels of delphinidin in roses and carnations.

The T-DNA from Ti binary construct pCGP1969 (described in Example 8) containing the chimaeric CaMV 35S: pansy BP#40 F3'5'H: ocs 3' gene expression cassette was introduced into the gerbera cultivar Boogie via Agrobacterium-mediated transformation, to test the functionality of the pansy F3'5'H sequence in gerbera.

Of 6 events produced to date, 1 (#23407) has produced flowers with a dramatic colour change (RHSCC 70c) compared to the control flower colour (RHSCC 38a, 38c).

The colour change of the petals of the transgenic gerbera has been correlated with the presence of delphinidin as detected by TLC.

Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the invention described herein is susceptible to variations and modifications other than those specifically described. It is to be understood that the invention includes all such variations and modifications. The invention also includes all of the steps, features, compositions and compounds referred to or indicated in this specification, individually or collectively, and any and all combinations of any two or more of said steps or features.

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SEQUENCE LISTING

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Gly Ala Ile Met Tyr Leu Lys Val Gly Thr Cys Gly Met Ala Val Ala 65

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Gly Ala Ile Met Tyr Leu Lys Val Gly Thr Cys Gly Met Val Val Ala 65 70 75 80

Ser Thr Pro Asp Ala Ala Lys Ala Phe Leu Lys Thr Leu Asp Leu Asn 85 90 95

Phe Ser Asn Arg Pro Pro Asn Ala Gly Ala Thr His Leu Ala Tyr Gly 100 105 110

Ala Gln Asp Met Val Phe Ala His Tyr Gly Pro Arg Trp Lys Leu Leu 115 120 125

Arg Lys Leu Ser Asn Leu His Met Leu Gly Gly Lys Ala Leu Glu Asn 130 135 140

Trp Ala Asn Val Arg Ala Asn Glu Leu Gly His Met Leu Lys Ser Met 145 150 155 160

Phe Asp Met Ser Arg Glu Gly Glu Arg Val Val Val Ala Glu Met Leu 165 170 175

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Val Phe Val Asn Lys Gly Val Glu Val Asn Glu Phe Lys Asp Met Val

195

420

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- 103 -

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Leu Pro Pro Gly Pro Ser Gly Trp Pro Leu Val Gly Ala Leu Pro Leu 35 40 45

Leu Gly Ala Met Pro His Val Thr Leu Ala Asn Leu Ala Lys Lys Tyr 50 55 60

Gly Pro Ile Met Tyr Leu Lys Met Gly Thr Cys Asp Met Val Val Ala 65 70 75 80

Ser Thr Pro Asp Ser Ala Arg Ala Phe Leu Lys Thr Leu Asp Leu Asn 85 90 95

Phe Ser Asp Arg Pro Pro Asn Ala Gly Ala Thr His Leu Ala Tyr Gly
100 105 110

Ala Gln Asp Leu Val Phe Ala Lys Tyr Gly Pro Arg Trp Lys Thr Leu 115 120 125

Arg Lys Leu Ser Asn Leu His Met Leu Gly Gly Lys Ala Leu Asp Asp 130 135

Trp Ala His Val Arg Ala Asn Glu Leu Gly His Met Leu Asn Ala Met 145 150 155 160

Cys Glu Ala Ser Arg Cys Gly Glu Pro Val Val Leu Ala Glu Met Leu 165 170 175

Thr Tyr Ala Met Ala Asn Met Ile Gly Gln Val Ile Leu Ser Arg Arg 180 185 190

Val Phe Val Thr Lys Gly Thr Glu Ser Asn Glu Phe Lys Asp Met Val 195 200 205

Val Glu Leu Met Thr Ser Ala Gly Tyr Phe Asn Ile Gly Asp Phe Ile 210 215 220

Pro Ser Ile Ala Trp Met Asp Leu Gln Gly Ile Glu Arg Gly Met Lys 225 230 235 240

Lys Leu His Thr Lys Phe Asp Val Leu Leu Thr Lys Met Met Lys Glu

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Leu Gly Ala Met Pro His Val Ala Leu Ala Lys Leu Ala Lys Lys Tyr

Gly Pro Ile Met His Leu Lys Met Gly Thr Cys Asp Met Val Val Ala

Ser Thr Pro Glu Ser Ala Arg Ala Phe Leu Lys Thr Leu Asp Leu Asn 85

Phe Ser Asn Arg Pro Pro Asn Ala Gly Ala Ser His Leu Ala Tyr Gly 100 105 Ala Gln Asp Leu Val Phe Ala Lys Tyr Gly Pro Arg Trp Lys Thr Leu Arg Lys Leu Ser Asn Leu His Met Leu Gly Gly Lys Ala Leu Asp Asp 130 Trp Ala Asn Val Arg Val Thr Glu Leu Gly His Met Leu Lys Ala Met 145 150 155 Cys Glu Ala Ser Arg Cys Gly Glu Pro Val Val Leu Ala Glu Met Leu Thr Tyr Ala Met Ala Asn Met Ile Gly Gln Val Ile Leu Ser Arg Arg Val Phe Val Thr Lys Gly. Thr Glu Ser Asn Glu Phe Lys Asp Met Val 200 Val Glu Leu Met Thr Ser Ala Gly Tyr Phe Asn Ile Gly Asp Phe Ile 210 215 220 Pro Ser Ile Ala Trp Met Asp Leu Gln Gly Ile Glu Arg Gly Met Lys 225 Lys Leu His Thr Lys Phe Asp Val Leu Leu Thr Lys Met Val Lys Glu His Arg Ala Thr Ser His Glu Arg Lys Gly Lys Ala Asp Phe Leu Asp Val Leu Leu Glu Glu Cys Asp Asn Thr Asn Gly Glu Lys Leu Ser Ile 280 Thr Asn Ile Lys Ala Val Leu Leu Asn Leu Phe Thr Ala Gly Thr Asp Thr Ser Ser Ser Ile Ile Glu Trp Ala Leu Thr Glu Met Ile Lys Asn 305

Pro Thr Ile Leu Lys Lys Ala Gln Glu Glu Met Asp Arg Val Ile Gly

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Gln Ala Ile 355		Glu Thr	Tyr Arg 360	Lys His	Pro Ser 365	Thr Pro Leu
Asn Leu Pro 370	Arg Ile	Ala Ile 375	Gln Ala	Cys Glu	Val Asp 380	Gly Tyr Tyr
Ile Pro Lys 385	Asp Ala	Arg Leu 390	Ser Val	Asn Ile 395	Trp Ala	Ile Gly Arg 400
Asp Pro Asn	Val Trp 405	Glu Asn	Pro Leu	Glu Phe 410	Leu Pro	Glu Arg Phe 415
Leu Ser Glu	Glu Asn 420	Gly Lys	Ile Asn 425	Pro Gly	Gly Asn	Asp Phe Lys 430
Leu Ile Pro 435	Phe Gly	Ala Gly	Arg Arg 440	Ile Cys	Ala Gly 445	Thr Arg Met
Gly Met Val 450	Leu Val	Ser Tyr 455	Ile Leu	Gly Thr	Leu Val 460	His Ser Phe
Asp Trp Lys 465	Leu Pro	Asn Gly 470	Val Ala	Glu Leu 475	Asn Met	Asp Glu Ser 480
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Lys Leu Ser Thr Thr Gly His Pro Leu Pro Pro Gly Pro Arg Gly Phe 35 40 45

Leu Val Val Gly Ser Leu Pro Leu Leu Gly Asp Met Pro His Val Ala 50 55 60 .

Leu Ala Lys Met Ala Lys Thr Tyr Gly Pro Ile Met Tyr Leu Lys Met 65 70 75 80

Gly Thr Val Gly Met Val Val Ala Ser Thr Pro Asp Ala Ala Arg Ala 85 90 95

Phe Leu Lys Thr His Asp Ala Asn Phe Ser Asn Arg Pro Val Asn Ala 100 105 110

Gly Ala Thr Ile Leu Ala Tyr Asn Ala Gln Asp Met Val Phe Ala Pro 115 120 125

Tyr Gly Pro Lys Trp Arg Leu Leu Arg Lys Leu Ser Ser Leu His Met 130 135 140

Leu Gly Ser Lys Ala Leu Glu Glu Trp Ala Asp Val Arg Thr Ser Glu 145 150 155 160

Val Gly His Met Leu Ala Ala Met His Glu Ala Ser Arg Leu Gly Glu 165 170 175

Ala Val Gly Leu Pro Glu Met Leu Val Tyr Ala Thr Ala Asn Met Ile 180 185 190

Gly Gln Val Ile Leu Ser Arg Arg Val Phe Val Thr Lys Gly Lys Glu 195 200 205

Met Asn Glu Phe Lys Glu Met Val Val Glu Leu Met Thr Thr Ala Gly 210 215 220

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Glu	Ser 290	Lys	Asp	Asp	Asp	Glu 295	Asp	Cys	Lys	Leu	Thr 300	Thr	Thr	Asn	Ile
Lys 305	Ala	Leu	Leu	Leu	Asn 310	Leu	Phe	Thr	Ala	Gly 315	Thr	Asp	Thr	Ser	Ser 320
Ser	Ile	Ile	Glu	Trp 325	Ala ·	Leu	Ala	Glu	Met 330	Ile	Lys	Asn	Pro	Ser 335	Ile
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Arg	Leu	Leu 355	Glu	Ser	Asp	Ile	Pro 360	Asn	Leu	Pro	Tyr	Leu 365	Lys	Ala	Ile
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Arg 385		Ser	Thr	Asp	Ala 390		Val	Val	Asp	Gly 395	Tyr	His	Ile	Pro	Lys 400
Asn	Thr	Arg	Leu	Ser 405	Val	Asn	Ile	Trp	Ala 410		Gly	Arg	Asp	Pro 415	Asp
Val	Trp	Gl u	Asn 420		Leu	Asp	Phe	Asn 425	Pro	Asp	Arg	Phe	Met 430	Ser	Gly
Leu	Gln	Gly 435		Glu	Pro	Gly	Gly 440		His	Phe	Glu	Leu 445	Ile	Pro	Phe

Gly Ala Gly Arg Arg Ile Cys Ala Gly Ser Arg Met Gly Ile Val Ile 455 450

Val Glu Tyr Leu Leu Ala Thr Leu Val His Ser Phe Glu Trp Asp Leu 470 465

Pro Ala Gly Ser Ala Glu Met Asp Met Glu Glu Val Phe Gly Leu Ala 490

Leu Gln Lys Ala Val Pro Leu Ala Ala Arg Leu Thr Pro Arg Leu Pro 505 500

Ser His Cys Tyr Ala Pro Pro Ser 515

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Thr Pro Gly His Pro Leu Pro Pro Gly Pro Arg Gly Phe Pro Val Val

Gly Ser Leu Pro Leu Leu Gly Asp Met Pro His Val Ala Leu Ala Lys

Met Ala Lys Thr Tyr Gly Pro Ile Met Tyr Leu Lys Met Gly Thr Val

Gly Met Val Val Ala Ser Thr Pro Asp Ala Ala Arg Ala Phe Leu Lys

Thr Gln Asp Ala Asn Phe Ser Asn Arg Pro Val Asn Ala Gly Ala Thr

- 118 -

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Ala Tyr Arg Lys His Pro Ser Thr Pro Leu Asn Leu Pro Arg Ile Ser 370 375 380

Thr Asp Ala Cys Val Val Asp Gly Tyr His Ile Pro Lys Asn Thr Arg 385 390 395 400

Leu Ser Val Asn Ile Trp Ala Ile Gly Arg Asp Pro Asp Val Trp Glu 405 410 415

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Lys Leu Pro Asn Gly Val Val Glu Leu Asn Met Glu Glu Thr Phe Gly 485 490 495

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Phe Ala Asn Met Ala Lys Lys Tyr Gly Ser Val Met Tyr Leu Lys Val

Gly Ser His Gly Leu Ala Ile Ala Ser Thr Pro Asp Ala Ala Lys Ala

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Tyr Gly Pro Lys Trp Lys Leu Leu Arg Lys Leu Ser Asn Leu His Met 135 130

Leu Gly Gly Lys Ala Leu Glu Asn Trp Ala Asp Val Arg Lys Thr Glu 145 150 155

Leu Gly Tyr Met Leu Lys Ala Met Phe Glu Ser Ser Gln Asn Asn Glu

Pro Val Met Ile Ser Glu Met Leu Thr Tyr Ala Met Ala Asn Met Leu 185 180

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Asn Pro Asn Glu Phe Asp Pro Glu Arg Phe Leu Tyr Gly Arg Asn Ala 425 420 Lys Ile Asp Pro Arg Gly Asn His Phe Glu Leu Ile Pro Phe Gly Ala Gly Arg Arg Ile Cys Ala Gly Thr Arg Met Gly Ile Leu Leu Val Glu Tyr Ile Leu Gly Thr Leu Val His Ser Phe Asp Trp Lys Leu Gly Phe 470 Ser Glu Asp Glu Leu Asn Met Asp Glu Thr Phe Gly Leu Ala Leu Gln Lys Ala Val Pro Leu Ala Ala Met Val Ile Pro Arg Leu Pro Leu His 505 500 Val Tyr Ala Pro 515 24 <210> 3731 <211> <212> DNA promoter fragment <213> tctagatatg cattttggtc gacgaactca caaatttgta ccaaacatgt aattttttt ttcttttttta cccttttaaa cattacaatt gaataagtag tacaacaaca tacccagttt tattttacag gtgggacctg gggagggtga aatgtacgca caccttacca ccaccaaggt ggagaggcag tttccggtag agcctcggct gaagaaaata tttcgagaac acgtttgaaa

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DATED this thirtieth day of August 2002.

International Flower Developments Pty Ltd by DAVIES COLLISION CAVE Patent Attorneys for the Applicant

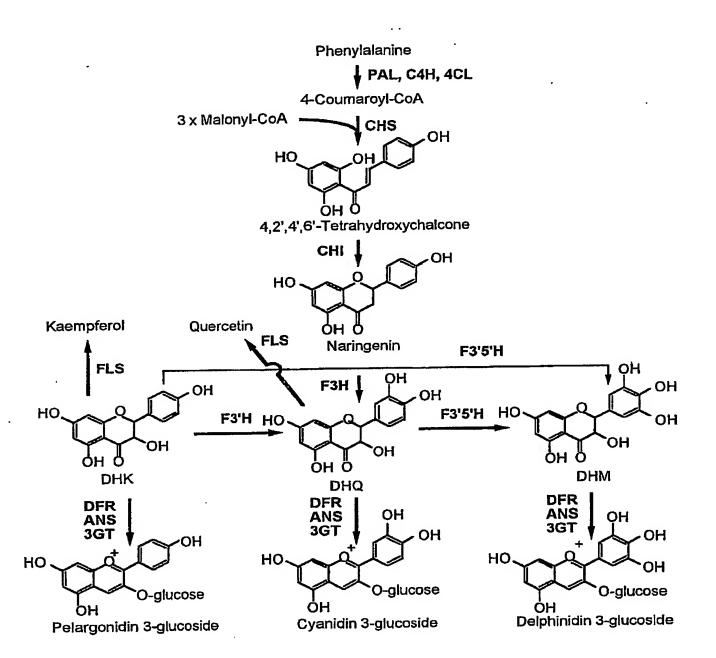


Figure 1a

Cyanidin 3-glucoside

Cyanidin 3-(p-coumaroyl)-rutinoside

Cyanidin 3-(p-coumaroyl)-rutinoside 5-glucoside

Peonidin
3-(p-coumaroyl)-rutinoside 5-glucoside

Figure 1b

Delphinidin 3-glucoside

Delphinidin 3-rutinoside

Delphinidin 3-(p-coumaroyl)-rutinoside

Delphinidin 3-(p-coumaroyl)-rutinoside 5-glucoside

Petunidin 3-(p-coumaroyl)-rutinoside 5 glucoside

Malvidin 3-(p-coumaroyl)-rutinoside 5-glucoside

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